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At the SIXTEENTH GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, on **THURSDAY, the 21st of January, 1864**, Sir JOHN VILLIERS SHELLEY, M.P., in the Chair, after authentication of the Register of shareholders, by affixing the Common Seal of the Company, the following Report was read by the Secretary:—The Directors have the satisfaction of submitting the annual Statement of Accounts, showing that the balance of profit upon the operations of the Bank for the past Half-Year amounts to £284,122.

After payment of the current expenses, including a gratuity to

the clerks of the establishment of 10 per cent. upon the amount of their respective salaries, making ample provision for all the doubtful debts, and allowing for rebate of interest on Bills discounted, not yet due, there remains for disposal the sum of £2,582,754 6d.

The Directors declare a Dividend at the rate of 10l. per cent. per annum, and also a Bonus of 15s. per Share, being at the rate of 2l. per cent. per annum, both free of Income Tax, and they transfer 12,000l. to the Reserve Fund, which, by such addition, is increased to 112,000l. The balance—viz., 1,060,774 6d.—is carried to the credit of Profit and Loss Account of the current Half-Year.

BANK OF LONDON.

Liabilities and Assets, December 31, 1863.

Du.	
To Capital paid up	£300,000 0 0
Reserve Fund	100,000 0 0
Amount due by the Bank on current deposit, and other accounts	4,179,234 0 0
Amount carried to credit of Profit and Loss Account	£23,672 7 11
Less amount paid to customers for interest on their Balances	31,277 15 8
	£4,640,688 17 3

Ca.

By Investments, viz.:	
In Government Securities, India Bonds, &c.	£210,003 18 8
Ditto in freehold premises in Threadneedle-street, &c. at a rental yielding 4 1/2 per cent.	£40,000 0 0
Freehold premises in the occupation of the Bank	35,000 0 0
Bills discounted, Loans, &c.	75,000 0 0
Cash in hand, and at call	616,537 8 1
Lease and buildings at Charing Cross Branch, furniture, &c.	614 8 9
	£4,640,688 17 3

Profit and Loss Account for the Half-Year ending Dec. 31, 1863.

Du.	
To half a year's current expenses at the Head Office and Charing Cross Branch, bad and doubtful debts, directors' remuneration, &c.	£15,528 0 6
Rebate of interest on bills discounted not yet due, carried to Profit and Loss New Account	9,836 4 2
Charing Cross Branch lease account	200 0 0
Dividend for the half-year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum	15,000 0 0
Bonus at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, or 15s. per share	7,500 0 0
Half-year's interest on the Reserve Fund at 4 1/2 per cent. per annum	£2,000 0 0
Amount now added thereto	10,000 0 0
	12,000 0 0
Balance carried to Profit and Loss New Account	1,030 7 8
	£61,364 12 3

Ca.	
By balance of profit brought from last half-year	606 15 4
Ditto for current half-year	60,757 16 11
	£61,364 12 3

Reserve Fund Account.

Du.	
To balance	£112,000 0 0
By amount from last half-year	£100,000 0 0
Additions brought down	12,000 0 0
	£112,000 0 0

We have examined the above accounts, and find them correct, January 13, 1864.

GEO. THOMSON, Auditors.

ALFRED B. GEORGE BONE, Auditors.

It was resolved unanimously—

"That the Report now read be received."

The Chairman announced that the Dividend and Bonus would be payable on and after Thursday, the 28th January, at the Head Office, in Threadneedle-street.

It was resolved unanimously—

"That, in consideration of the valuable services of the Directors, and their continued exertions in promoting the interests of the Shareholders, their remuneration be increased by the sum of 1,000l. per annum, to commence from 31st of December, 1863."

It was proposed—

"That in consideration of the increase which has taken place in the duties of the Auditors from the extension of the business of the Bank, their remuneration be advanced for the future to thirty guineas for each half-yearly audit."

Upon which an amendment was moved and carried unanimously.

"That the Auditors' remuneration be 50l. for each audit."

It was resolved unanimously—

"That the cordial thanks of the Shareholders be hereby tendered to the Chairman and Directors for their successful management of the affairs of the Bank."

"That this Meeting, in tendering its thanks to the Manager, Secretary, and other Officers of the Bank for their continued labors in the discharge of their several duties, do take this opportunity of recording the deep sense it entertains of the great services rendered to the Bank by Mr. Marshall and Mr. Allen."

Extracted from the Minutes. C. J. H. ALLEN, Secretary.

Threadneedle-street, January 21, 1864.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1864.

LITERATURE

The Story of the Guns. By Sir J. Emerson Tennent, K.C.S., LL.D. With Illustrations. (Longman & Co.)

DURING the last few years no names have been more prominently before the public than those of Sir W. Armstrong and Mr. Whitworth. Sir W. Armstrong proposed a system of artillery which was introduced into the service in 1858, and Mr. Whitworth proposed another system which was declined. Ever since that date, the battle of the guns has been raging; and its termination seems to be as remote as that of the War in America. A right judgment in the selection of artillery is of vital consequence to the nation, for an error in this respect may one day lead to disaster as well as dishonour. The question, therefore, with which Sir Emerson Tennent deals should be approached with the utmost calmness, without the least personal consideration for any gun-inventor. Unhappily the reverse is the case: the 'Story of the Guns' is in reality the story of a gun, and not of the guns. Nearly every page indicates that Sir E. Tennent is not an impartial historian. From the beginning to the end of his volume there is one continuous and systematic effort to disparage Armstrong and to magnify Whitworth: a circumstance which naturally rouses the reader into an attitude of opposition.

The only comparison drawn by Sir E. Tennent between the Armstrong and Whitworth guns with respect to their relative precision of fire, will be found at p. 199 of 'The Story.' The separate firing of an Armstrong and a Whitworth 12-pounder under different conditions, and with results incompletely recorded, is compared, to the prejudice of the former; although Sir E. Tennent ought to have been aware that the very same guns only two months later were tested one against the other under equal conditions, and that in the official report of these trials, it is stated that the precision of the Armstrong gun was superior to that of the Whitworth in the proportion of 649 to 495.

Again, the only comparison drawn on the important question of the relative velocity of Armstrong and Whitworth projectiles is at p. 299, where Sir E. Tennent states that "the high velocity of the Whitworth projectiles no doubt contributed greatly to their success (i.e. against plated targets). Even at 800 yards it was 1,220 feet per second; that of the Armstrong 110-pounder, fired with fourteen pounds of powder, is only 1,210 feet at the mouth of the gun." He omits to call attention to the fact that the Whitworth 130-pound shot which attained the velocity in question was fired with a charge of powder of more than one-fifth the weight of the shot; whereas the 110-pound Armstrong shot was propelled by a charge of only one-eighth its weight. We believe that the Armstrong 110-pound shot has never been fired with a charge of one-fifth its weight, but with a charge of one-fourth its velocity at ninety feet from the muzzle was found to be 1,591 feet per second. Sir E. Tennent, disclaiming all scientific knowledge of gunnery, tells us that the increase of velocity from increased charges of powder would not be so great in the Armstrong as in the Whitworth gun.

The late President of the Ordnance Select Committee, however, informed the Committee on Ordnance, whose proceedings Sir E. Tennent should have more carefully studied, that a comparative trial had been instituted on this very subject, and that "the conclusion at which they (the Committee) arrived is this: that under

strictly comparable conditions, that is to say, equal weight of shot, equal charge and equal length of gun, the Whitworth 12-pounder will give an initial velocity below that of the Armstrong gun" (1st Report, p. 134). The present President of the Committee gave evidence of other competitive trials, and stated that "the initial velocity is decidedly in favour of the Armstrong shot" (*Ibid.* p. 15). A perusal of the official records of the ballistic experiments of which Sir E. Tennent speaks, would have shown him that comparisons between the velocities of Armstrong and Whitworth guns have frequently been made, and that it appears from them that the Armstrong guns possess in all cases at least equal if not superior velocity to the Whitworth guns.

But, as might be expected, the partisanship of Sir E. Tennent is chiefly exhibited by the manner in which he sketches the performances of the rival artillerists against the targets of Shoeburyness. While he admits as incontestable the value and efficiency of Sir W. Armstrong's segment shell, he claims for Mr. Whitworth an equal superiority in the production of steel missiles for the penetration of iron plates. Upon this point no one will deny to Mr. Whitworth the merit of successful investigation, nor is it needful for his friends to transgress the bounds of fair argument in order to obtain for him the credit that is justly his due. Sir E. Tennent, however, commences by ascribing to Mr. Whitworth the priority in the use of steel shot. He informs his readers, but without giving his authority, that the shot fired by Mr. Whitworth, in October, 1858, from a cast-iron 68-pounder, against the iron sides of the Alfred, was a steel shot (pp. 249, 254), and, indeed, he gives an engraving of it. He takes no notice of the fact, that the official public records, from which alone his work is said to be compiled, invariably describe this shot as being of wrought iron, and not steel (2nd Report, p. 416). According to all official and documentary record of which we are cognizant, Mr. Whitworth did not use a single steel shot until June, 1860. But it is, no doubt, important to carry back the date to October, 1858, since it appears that Sir W. Armstrong commenced and continued to use steel shot from January, 1859. Without discussing questions of priority, let us see how Sir E. Tennent treats the more pertinent question—Who first succeeded with steel shot? It appears that Sir W. Armstrong and Mr. Whitworth both employed 80-pounder guns, with steel missiles, against the iron sides of the Trusty, the former in September, 1859, the latter in June, 1860. Sir E. Tennent narrates to us at length how "the Armstrong 80-pounder fails to overcome the iron plates" (p. xvii.), and at still greater length, how the Whitworth 80-pounder "in every instance penetrated the sides of the Trusty" (p. 207). Now, the facts are, that each gun sent two shot, and two shot only, through the side of the Trusty, but that the Armstrong missiles, being wider, had to make a larger hole in order to get through, and were fired from a much lighter gun, with a lower charge, and, in one case, at double the distance from the ship. We are astonished that Sir E. Tennent, having had, as is evident, before him the official record of these two experiments, should have mis-interpreted them so extraordinarily. Yet in almost every page the same untrustworthy method of treatment prevails. Passing from these early experiments against iron plates, Sir E. Tennent proceeds to recount the triumphs of Mr. Whitworth at Shoeburyness in September, 1862. He ignores completely the experiments which occupied

the interval. Not a word is said of the first real success against armour plates, achieved by the 150-pounders and 300-pounders of Sir W. Armstrong's construction. The experiments with one of these formidable pieces against Mr. Samuda's and Mr. Scott Russell's target, in May, 1862, and against the Minotaur target, in July, 1862, are entirely overlooked. One only mention of the important results obtained by the 300-pounder against the Warrior target is contained in the following chance passage:—"When the Armstrong gun penetrated the Warrior target in the spring of 1862, the charge of 50 pounds was so great as to cause the destruction of the gun." We know not which is more remarkable in this short paragraph, the want of candour or the want of accuracy. The gun in question was not destroyed, nor even injured, in the effort to penetrate the Warrior target. At a later period, the breech-piece split across and blew out, but it is notorious that the gun had fired previously the enormous charges of 90, 80, 70, and 60 pounds of powder, and it is, therefore, idle to ascribe its subsequent failure to the use of a 50-pound charge. As for the 300-pound steel shells, Sir E. Tennent has not even noticed them. Not to dim the lustre of the achievements of the Whitworth shell, he passes by the Armstrong missile, confessing by his silence either an unwillingness to praise, or an inability to condemn it. Yet he was probably aware that it had been officially reported "that the damage done by the Whitworth steel shells was not very great; the holes could be easily plugged, and the effect of the shells inboard was inconsiderable." The Report added, that "heavier guns, capable of being used with much larger charges of powder, must be adopted before horizontal shell firing could be looked upon as very destructive to a ship of the Warrior class." Why, then, has he avoided all mention of the effects produced by the more capacious and more powerful Armstrong shells? Although the 300-pound shells are forgotten, a 300-pound shot subsequently fired at Mr. Chalmers's target, generally believed to be the strongest, and, though heavier than the Warrior target, the best for its weight as yet produced, is incidentally noticed, "which, as had been foreseen, passed completely through, leaving behind it a ragged and irreparable breach"; and then he adds, "a flat fronted shot or shell from the 7-inch Whitworth gun would have proved equally destructive!"

Sir E. Tennent's mistakes have the unfortunate characteristic of being all on one side—all in Mr. Whitworth's favour. When speaking of the above flat-fronted shot, he states, "he (Mr. Whitworth) gave the use of his flat-fronted projectile to Her Majesty's Government; and hence, Sir W. Armstrong was enabled subsequently to conduct experiments at Shoeburyness with shot of this particular form." Readers of the law reports will remember that Mr. Whitworth's firm actually issued an injunction to restrain Sir W. Armstrong from making any experiments on behalf of the Government with flat-fronted shot. In his letter to the *Times* of November 6, 1862, Mr. Whitworth declines to withdraw this injunction. He says, "When my own experiments are concluded, it will give me much pleasure to see Sir William try, if he chooses, projectiles like mine." That the Government officials have used flat-headed shot, and have exposed the fallacy as to their peculiar efficacy, is true; but they have done it in spite of Mr. Whitworth and without his leave.

Again, Sir E. Tennent states, "The principle of polygonal rifling was not new, nor did Mr.

Whitworth lay any claim to originality in its conception." Yet in May, 1855, Mr. Whitworth set forth as a distinct and specific claim in a patent,—"3rdly, the adoption of the polygonal spiral for rifled ordnance and fire-arms." Further on, Sir E. Tennent explains that the system so patented by Mr. Whitworth "presented this distinctive claim to originality, that it was the first which, along with a peculiar form for rifling, included the use of a corresponding form for the projectile." Nevertheless, Sir E. Tennent himself mentions that, "a rifle is exhibited in the arsenal at Woolwich hexagonally bored by Serjeant Morre, of the Royal Artillery, so far back as 1839," and he should have added, that with this hexagonal rifle are exhibited three various projectiles "of a corresponding form."

Sir E. Tennent is silent as to the disclosure before the Committee of the House of Commons respecting the use made by Mr. Whitworth of Mr. Brunel's polygonal rifle, and his subsequent denial of all obligation to Mr. Brunel. He does not mention that Mr. Whitworth confesses to having had that rifle shown to him, he thinks, late in the spring of 1855; that Mr. Whitworth's first claim to polygonal rifling is dated May 31, 1855, and, finally, that Mr. Westley Richards asserts as follows, in a letter laid before the same Committee—

"I beg to state that when I was associated with Mr. Whitworth in 1854 for the purpose of informing him upon matters connected with gunnery, &c., I did, at one of my first interviews with Mr. Whitworth—I think at my first interview on the 11th of March, 1854—communicate to Mr. Whitworth the fact that I had then made a polygonal rifle for Mr. Brunel; that I discussed the idea of this rifle fully with Mr. Whitworth; that Mr. Whitworth did not inform me that he had himself conceived the idea or made a model of a polygonal rifle."

Nor does Sir E. Tennent inform us that Mr. Whitworth assured the House of Commons Committee, only last summer, that he owed "nothing whatever" to Mr. Brunel. These subjects Sir E. Tennent avoids, and he may be right in doing so, but why does he also avoid the disclosure as to Mr. Whitworth's use of Sir W. Armstrong's system of construction for his guns, and his subsequent denial of all obligation to Sir W. Armstrong? How is it that he falls into the error of describing the guns with which Mr. Whitworth achieved his great results in 1862 as having been "*made by his firm*"? It is notorious that the only guns which Mr. Whitworth has ever used against the Shoeburyness targets have been made for him in the Royal Gun Factories upon the coil system. Of these the largest and most successful is the seven-and-a-half-ton gun of seven inches calibre, concerning which Mr. Whitworth informed the public—in letters to the *Times* of October 11 and November 8, 1862—that it was "made to drawings supplied by him." Now these statements of Mr. Whitworth were examined by the Ordnance Select Committee, who reported as follows, and their report is before the public in the Ordnance Blue-Book, 1863, p. 305:—

"Such being Mr. Whitworth's assertions, it is with unfeigned astonishment that the Committee have to report to the Secretary of State that they are not only not borne out by the facts of the case, but that they are the reverse of the truth, and they are at a loss to understand how a gentleman of Mr. Whitworth's reputation could hazard them."

Mr. Anderson also, the Assistant-Superintendent of the Royal Gun Factories, under whose special supervision the gun in question was made, assured the Committee of the House of Commons last March, that Mr. Whitworth "must have been under a misapprehension

when that was written, because the plan was very different from the one supplied by him"; and again, in April, on being asked "Therefore the gun was not made to the drawing, or even to the principle of the drawing that was sent in by Mr. Whitworth?" he replied "No, it certainly was not." Sir E. Tennent in the face of this and other testimony of similar bearing, and without a shred of evidence to support him, quietly informs his readers that the "principle and the original outline and the essential features of the design were preserved," and that "the statement of Mr. Whitworth was confirmed"! The resolution of Sir E. Tennent, expressed in his Preface, to "scrupulously shun beyond the merest mention the open assaults and the secret imputations," which, if credited, would prove our artillerymen to be "the wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind," was a prudent one, but had he desired to allay suspicion as to the circumstances out of which that resolution arose, he should have kept it faithfully as regards both Sir W. Armstrong and Mr. Whitworth. On the contrary, while he has drawn a veil over such painful disclosures as the foregoing, there is not the most trivial attack upon the originality or priority of Sir W. Armstrong to which he has not given prominence.

On the question of the Armstrong system of construction, he tells us that the Ordnance Select Committee reported Capt. Blakely's and Sir W. Armstrong's "methods to be identical." An examination of the Report of that Committee, referred to by Sir E. Tennent, shows that the Ordnance Select Committee did nothing of the kind. They simply report an interview with Capt. Blakely, in February, 1861, at which that gentleman suggested (in 1861, be it observed), "that the true method of proceeding is, to shrink one coil, or ring of metal, in another, with a certain calculated tension." To this the Committee responded that, "this, and no other, is the principle employed in the manufacture of Armstrong guns," and that if Capt. Blakely proposed only this he proposed nothing new. The Armstrong gun, and the French, Spanish, American, and all other built-up guns, from the very earliest date, are put together with tension. The principle is, no doubt, as the Committee say, well known; but it is plain that they never meant that therefore all these guns are "identical": they simply exposed the pretensions of Capt. Blakely to novelty.

If Sir E. Tennent's errors are such as at least to do no injustice to Mr. Whitworth, they are, we find, less innocuous as regards Sir W. Armstrong. He is described as "the constituted adviser" of the Ordnance Select Committee and as "the confidential adviser of the Government upon the discoveries of other inventors as well as his own." "As a natural consequence, it is said that some of the improvements brought forward by other inventors have been adopted by Sir W. Armstrong." Sir E. Tennent does not support his remarks by reference to any authorities, or illustrate his imputations by any examples. On the other hand, the President of the Ordnance Select Committee states very positively that no inventions were ever submitted to Sir W. Armstrong, who was never referred to on such points, and who never came between the Government and inventors in any shape. Which are we to believe?

We have only space for a single example. Sir E. Tennent quotes Capt. Jerminham, R.N., as saying "that, acting under instructions to watch and report upon flaws, he 'always felt that he would rather Sir William Armstrong should fire such guns himself.'" The true version

is, that Capt. Jerminham "would rather that the manufacturer of the gun should fire it than that I should" (Blue-Book, 1863, p. 171); and the distinction is obvious, for Capt. Jerminham, whose testimony is favourable to the Armstrong guns, is here condemning, not the gun nor the system, but certain guns of bad manufacture.

As an example of Sir E. Tennent's reasoning, we quote the following passage:—"The triumph of the new projectile was the destruction of the gun (a 68-pounder of cast-iron, rifled hexagonally), which was rent into fragments by the explosion; thus definitively settling the question of the insufficiency of cast metal for such services." Other similar guns, rifled on the same plan, had met with the same fate. Sir E. Tennent's syllogism is as follows:—1. Mr. Whitworth tried cast-iron guns, rifled hexagonally; 2. These guns burst; 3. Therefore, cast iron is unsuitable for all rifled guns. Now, it by no means follows that because this metal is proved unsuitable for the Whitworth rifling, it should be also equally unsuitable for all other modes of rifling. We believe that it is so, from the results of many other experiments with cast-iron guns, rifled variously; but Sir E. Tennent was assuredly not justified in drawing such a conclusion from experiments with cast-iron guns, hexagonally rifled.

At one time or other as many as ten committees have been appointed to consider Mr. Whitworth's proposals and disputes with reference to small arms and ordnance. The tenth Committee was appointed more than a year ago, in order to institute a series of comparative experiments between Armstrong and Whitworth guns. The public are eagerly awaiting the results; but not a single experiment has yet been made, and the delay is ascribed wholly to Mr. Whitworth, or rather to the Manchester Ordnance Company. Sir E. Tennent has exposed himself, no doubt unconsciously, to the imputation of being the mouthpiece of this company, and it is much to be regretted that he should have placed himself in such a position.

Horeb and Jerusalem. By the Rev. George Sandie. (Edinburgh, Edmonston & Douglas.) 'Horeb and Jerusalem' is a title which imperfectly describes this clever, unsound book. The Rev. George Sandie, a Scottish minister, went to the Holy Land for his amusement and instruction, as the familiar saying runs. When he entered Judea he had not read much beyond his Bible; and, in fact, he only began to read in earnest after his return to Gourrock. Then, he took up the theory proposed by Mr. Ferguson, and recently reproduced by that gentleman in the Dictionary of the Bible, that the real Church of the Holy Sepulchre is the edifice known as the Mosque of Omar. The adoption of this theory gave Mr. Sandie a definite object; perhaps led to the composition of his book.

Next after the basilica which the Empress Helena reared above the sacred grotto, near that Khan of Bethlehem in which Christ was born, that which, were it surely known, would most command the reverence of Christian men and women, would be the basilica raised by Constantine, her son, over the cave in which, after his crucifixion, he was laid. But the edifice, nay, the very site, is unknown. Who can tell us which was Calvary, which was Zion? Many can say, but who can prove his word? If we think of it, we shall perhaps be struck with the singularity of the fact, that, while the church of a small village, only seven miles from Jerusalem, remains entire, though a little older in date, the great basilica built by the Emperor

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should be so far the sport of antiquaries and critics that the very hill on which it stood should have become matter of doubt. But the fact is even so. Olivet and Bethany and Bethlehem we know; but which of these hills was the Mount of Zion we can only guess.

Of course the Church has its own traditions, but these are such as the traveller rarely can accept. The books which an ordinary reader of Biblical literature has at hand, Stanley's 'Sinai and Palestine,' Robinson's 'Researches,' Thomson's 'The Land and the Book,' Smith's 'Dictionary of the Bible,' Bartlett's 'Jerusalem,' and many more, either wholly or in part reject the ecclesiastical traditions which favour the church on the western hill, now known as the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, without, however, being able to fix on any safer site in its stead. The present site has a strong and earnest defender in Mr. Lewin; an uncompromising adversary in Mr. Fergusson.

The case may be stated in this wise. When Mr. Catherwood brought home from the East his wonderful collection of drawings, the Author of 'The Handbook of Architecture' saw among them a drawing of the Mosque of Omar, an edifice which was then unknown to scholars. The dome and upper part of this beautiful pile were known to be Saracenic; and the interior was supposed to be the same. Mr. Fergusson, one of the first critics of this age as to styles and dates in architecture, perceived that all the lower parts of the structure, including the columns, the piers which divide the two aisles, together with the entablatures, the discharging arches, and the cornices, were Byzantine. The triforium belt, the clerestory, were of the age of Constantine. These were unsuspected and startling facts; and Mr. Fergusson pressed his argument home with a vigour and an abruptness which disturbed the reader's mind without improving his belief. For whatever purpose it had been raised, Mr. Fergusson was confident that the Dome of the Rock was built by Constantine; and he was almost equally confident (no other church in Jerusalem bearing the slightest trace of Byzantine Art) that the edifice was the identical Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Against this view of the case the argument seemed, and still seems, very strong. It was said that this rock could not have been the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea—firstly, because it is not on Mount Zion; secondly, because the real spot is known elsewhere; thirdly, because it is in the centre of the Temple platform; and, fourthly, because it is, and must always have been, inside the city walls. To each of these points Mr. Fergusson replied. He asserted that the present Mount Zion is a fraud, and the present church a fraud; that the true Mount Zion is identical with Mount Moriah, and that the present Church of the Holy Sepulchre was an invention of priests and monks. He asserted that the original Temple platform was much smaller than it is now; and he urged that the remarkable rock below the Dome had been, in the time of Herod, outside the city wall. Every one felt that the architectural evidence ought to be considered, though the antiquarian and scriptural arguments seemed extremely vague.

At this point Mr. Sandie comes to the support of his ingenious countryman. He repeats, with little or no additional reason for doing so, Mr. Fergusson's statements; insists on the architectural details; and contends that the name of Mount Zion must be understood as meaning Mount Moriah—that is, the eastern, not the western, hill of Jerusalem,—and he locates the several towers and castles mentioned by Josephus just as a chess-player would arrange

his pieces for a problem. Mr. Sandie sees more clearly, perhaps, than Mr. Fergusson the necessity of proving that the ground on which the Mosque of Omar stands lay beyond the city walls, and his contribution to the difficult problem is the theory, that in the time of Christ a ravine crossed the great enclosure, now called the Temple platform, dividing Moriah from an opposite hill—the hill, in fact, of Calvary, which he supposes lay between Antonia and the Temple, a space unenclosed, near to the cemeteries and the royal tombs. The theory is ingenious, and a very elaborate statement in defence of it is made; it may be found hereafter to be the only true theory; but at present we are not convinced by Mr. Sandie's zeal. Like Dean Stanley, we should like to hear of there being any chance of a competent inquiry on the spot, as to the architectural details, and of an opinion being obtainable from other architects, such as Prof. Donaldson and Mr. Tite, as to the certainty with which dates can be inferred from the moulding of a cornice and the set of a pier in a Byzantine building. Such evidence would be highly welcome to the many who are interested in the Holy Places. So far as we know, Mr. Fergusson stands alone. Signor Pierotti, the chief authority on modern Jerusalem, differs from him entirely as to the Dome of the Rock.

Our own objections to this theory are:—that it is against ecclesiastical tradition,—that it disturbs the present topography of Jerusalem,—that it insists, against common sense, that Mount Moriah and Mount Zion are names of one and the same hill,—that it requires us to believe the place of public execution stood close to the Temple, a thing repugnant to Jewish and Oriental ideas,—that it involves the military difficulty of supposing that a space of ground lying between the Temple and Antonia was left without the protection of a wall,—and that it overlooks the very important fact of the basilica of the Holy Sepulchre having been destroyed by the Persians. Many persons, remembering a good old joke, will think the last reason quite sufficient of itself. If the Church of the Sepulchre was burnt by the Persians, it is clear enough that if we find a Byzantine edifice still standing in Jerusalem, with its circle of columns, entablatures, discharging arches, cornices, triforium belt and clerestory all quite perfect, just as they came from the artists' hands, we may safely conclude that such building is not the church erected by Constantine.

We may add, for the profit of readers who would like to pursue this theory to an end, that Mr. Lewin produces twelve "decisive reasons" (not identical with the foregoing) for rejecting the supposition that the site of the Holy Sepulchre was the ground now covered by the Dome of the Rock. These twelve decisive reasons are:—1, that the Bordeaux Pilgrim, in passing from Zion to the Damascus Gate, says that he had the Church of the Sepulchre on his left hand, when the Mosque of Omar would be on his right; 2, that the same Pilgrim describes the Temple enclosure from Bethesda, on the north, to the substructures on the south, without mentioning the basilica; 3, that Eusebius speaks of the Sepulchre being to the north of Zion, whereas the Dome of the Rock lies due east; 4, that Eusebius describes the church as outside the city walls; 5, that the cave under the dome is not a Jewish sepulchre; 6, that the cave does not look towards the sun, as Eusebius says the true Sepulchre did, but is many feet below the ground; 7, that the true Church of the Sepulchre had a basilica to the east of it; 8, that the basilica of Constantine faced the entrance to the Sepulchre, a thing impossible at the Mosque of Omar; 9, that the

real basilica was built in an excavation, while the Dome stands on a hill; 10, that the vestibule of the basilica terminated in a marketplace, while the Golden Gate, which Mr. Fergusson imagines to have been the vestibule of Constantine, hangs over a precipice; 11, that the true church had a rocky mound on the west, which prevented its extension in that direction; and 12, that no record, or tradition, exists of any change in the site.

We will not say that all these arguments, our own included, are absolutely destructive of Mr. Fergusson's theory; but we feel that they make a case against it which cannot be overlooked. Of course, if it were allowed that Mount Zion may be taken to mean Mount Moriah, the eastern hill, some of Mr. Lewin's arguments would have to be abandoned; but this is merely begging a question which requires to be proved. It has yet to be shown either that the Bible calls Moriah Zion or that anybody since the time of Constantine has ever spoken of the eastern hill as Mount Zion. It would, on general grounds, be more difficult to change the name of a remarkable hill than it would be to confuse the identity of two particular churches. It would assuredly not be easy to induce the whole of mankind to believe that St. Paul's Cathedral is Westminster Abbey. Still more difficult would it be found to obtain their consent to regard Tower Hill as Ludgate Hill.

In the mean time, means of testing many parts of the history of the Holy City lie thirty or forty feet below the present surface of its lanes and alleys. Who will dig them out? We burrow in the dust of Cnidus, Budhrum, Pompeii and Carthage; why not in the limestone ruins of Jerusalem? Is Pagan art more valuable than Christian truth? No city would repay the excavator's toil with more abundant harvests.

Christmas at Old Court. By the Author of 'Richelieu in Love,' &c. (Bentley.)

If it were an offence against statute-law or good morals to read a Christmas story at any period but Christmastide, and if there were no persons who enjoy winter tales, as they do ices, more in the dog-days than when streams are ice-bound and carols sound clear through the frosty air, we should lament the late appearance of this cheery volume, which, though it is specially addressed to merry folk making holiday in the week preceding and the fortnight following the opening of the New Year, has missed timely delivery by its publisher, and failed to obtain prompt notice from the critic. But as neither divine nor human law forbids the reading of pleasant books at any season, and as there are many readers who find pleasure in descriptions of fireside comfort and January revels, whilst warm breezes are whispering amidst spring buds or robbing rose-beds of rich perfume, we have no fear that the author of 'Richelieu in Love' will have much reason to regret the untoward circumstances which have surrounded the appearance of her present book. 'Christmas at Old Court' is a collection of stories, poems and dramatic pieces set into a love story, the principal characters of which tell, sing, read, or act the tales, songs, and plays thus brought together. This method of laying before readers a medley of literary productions is no new device; but the merit of each component part of 'Christmas at Old Court' places the book high above the volumes with which its plan of construction will cause it to be classified. It is a string of beads, but each bead is a well-cut gem, and the thread which unites them is a silken cord—rich, delicate,

and dextrously woven. The most notable of these precious stones is the "Shakspeare Forgery,"—a worm-eaten tome, bearing on its title-page an announcement that it is "an excellently new-conceited Tragedy, by Master William Shakspeare, as enacted, with most honourable approbation, before Her Sacred Majesty the Queen, at Essex House, in the Strand, A.D. 1599." The story of this imitation is fantastic; but the play shows considerable power of dramatic construction, and contains passages of fine thought nobly expressed. Col. Mainfroy's story, 'The Merry Wives of Delhi,' is likewise good; and 'Mistaken Identity: a Tragi-Comedietta, in One Act,' may be recommended to the notice of amateur performers who like to entertain their friends with "private theatricals," and are looking out for a piece adapted for representation on a drawing-room stage.

The love story, into which the above-mentioned pieces are woven, opens with a sprightly and admirably written letter, from Georgiana Glanville to her particular friend, Verte-Verte, inviting the latter to spend her Christmas at Old Court—an ancient mansion, standing in the vicinity of Gloucester, and in its well-stored cellar, haunted bed-room, hospitable proprietor, many guests, and efficient stud, containing all the appliances for country-house festivity. Georgiana, the heroine, at the commencement of the Christmas vacation, is vacillating between two sentimental proposals—an offer that places within her reach a "heavy dragon," who possesses 5,000*l.* a-year, and an entreaty that she should become the wife of a young barrister, whose purse is slender, though his talents are great. The main interest of the narrative depends on the descriptions of Georgiana's temptation, danger, and irresolution, and reaches its height when she is saved from the misery that would inevitably follow a bad choice.

'Christmas at Old Court' closes with the Epithalamium which was spoken by Miss Avonia Jones, at the Adelphi Theatre, on the occasion of the Princess Alexandra's marriage. It opens with this dedication to Mr. Benjamin Webster:—

Erewhile I did commend unto the Nine,
Who sing while Time beats time, thy worthy name
To be recorded in a loftier line:
And would have had them wreath it with the fame
Of those, thy life-long toils, though vain perchance,
To bring back ENGLISH NATURE to the stage,
O'erflooded by rank-glistening mire of France:
And still would fain the grateful task engage
Could I yet deem, as in my haughtier years
Of couraged youth, I had a voice to reach,
Like the old bards', so high, clear-starred spheres,
Above the shining murmurs on Time's beach:
What can I now? The world forestalls my praise
Of thy skill'd grace to tread the mingled scene
Where tears and laughter do each other chase,
Rapid as rainbow'd April's shower and sheen:
What boots it to the hurrying crowd to tell
How dear thy witty friendship to one heart!—
And yet 'tis something to appreciate well
E'en costly stores in which we have no part,
And the best season claims some kindly fee!
So may yours be, what most yourself desire!
That for the ashes of each outspent fire
Which in your brethren glowed, a hearth may be
Where you have raised broad roofs, are the First Three
Of all the centuries he shall outreign
Are checked against the Immortality
Of the great Master of Humanity,
Of Them, and Thee, and Me.

It may be reasonably hoped that the fulfilment of the author's good wishes for the Dramatic College will be amongst the results of the work which is being carried out by the Shakspeare festivities.

Autobiography, Correspondence, &c., of Lyman Beecher, D.D. Edited by his Son, Charles Beecher. Vol. I. (Low & Co.)

A memoir of the father of Mrs. Beecher Stowe and the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher will prove

interesting to a certain class of readers. The Rev. Lyman Beecher, who evidently was considered as "a burning and a shining light" in his own immediate circle, but who was, perhaps, rather what Sydney Smith would have called "a sacred and silly gentleman," was haunted by a desire to indite his own history; but so fastidious was he, and so dissatisfied with his own style of writing, that he arrived at the age of threescore and ten without having been able to accomplish this task. He was, as his sister used to say, so "given to the lust of finishing," that he ended by never finishing anything. At length, in his old age, he appealed to his children for help, and, "in a quiet, social way, in the sitting-room of his daughter, Mrs. Stowe, he detailed the recollections of his life, which were taken down as they fell from his lips." Whenever the old gentleman's memory flagged, his children cross-questioned him, and the questions and answers are given literally, as they were spoken, so that much of this autobiography reads like the newspaper report of the examination of a witness in a court of justice. Thus, when the narrator breaks down in his early reminiscences of fishing, his daughter gently jogs his memory by asking, "H.B.S.—Did you hunt any?" or she elicits new facts by a leading question, as to his infantile disorders. "H.B.S.—And were you never sick?"—"I had the mumps, measles, whooping-cough, and all that sort of thing," replies the father, immediately going off into a list of all the accidents and escapes, falling trees, kettles of scalding water, &c., which had threatened to cut short his career prematurely.

When upon the subject of education, C. B. (the editor of the book) thinks it his duty to inquire gravely, "Well, father, and what sort of a religious training did you have?" This style of autobiography has a certain originality and air of truthfulness about it which carries us through many pages of twaddle, which might otherwise have baffled 'Uncle Tom's' most devoted admirers.

To make a short story out of a long one, it appears that Dr. Lyman Beecher's ancestors came from England to New Haven, with an opulent company of Puritans, in the year 1638, about eighteen years after the Mayflower had arrived with the first party of the Pilgrim Fathers. Hannah Beecher, with her son John, were among these settlers. The husband of Hannah died just before the expedition set sail, but the widow, being a midwife, was promised a share in the town plot in return for her valuable services, if she would promise not to abandon the enterprise. When she died, she left property to the amount of 55*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, and a grandson (Joseph) of such great muscular strength that he was able "to lift a barrel of cider, and drink out of the bung-hole." The father of the autobiographer was also a man of immense strength, by trade a blacksmith. David Beecher had five wives and twelve children, the Rev. Lyman being the only child of "the third and best-beloved wife, Esther," who died of consumption two days after his birth.

We pass over the anecdotes of the minister's early days and college life, the most important event being what is termed his "religious awakening." "It was not," says the old gentleman regretfully, "before the middle of my junior year that I was really awakened." He was mismanaged. "I can see now," he adds, "that if I had had the instruction I give to inquirers, I should have come out bright in a few days. Mine was what I should now call a hopeful, promising case. Old Dr. Hopkins had just such an awakening, and was tormented for a great while." Dr. Beecher always seems to have looked at candidates for "conversion"

very much as a doctor looks at a patient. He evidently had great confidence in his own surgical skill, in relieving their minds from all distressing doubts of their eternal welfare. "I wish," he says to his children, "I could give you my clinical theology. I have used my Evangelical philosophy all my lifetime, and relieved people without number out of the sloughs of high Calvinism." Again, on hearing some of his early letters read aloud in his old age, he was shocked at his own awkwardness of dealing with a convert (a young lady whom he afterwards married). "Well, I was an ignoramus," he exclaimed; "but," he added impressively, "if I had had *him* and *her* in one of my inquiry meetings, I would have set them right in half-an-hour." Mrs. Stowe carries on the same tone in speaking of her father's success in "reviving."

"From the very first of his ministry he never preached without his eye on his audience. He noticed every change of countenance, every indication of awakened interest. And these he immediately followed up by seeking private conversation. His ardour in this pursuit was singular and almost indescribable. He used to liken it to the ardour of the chase!!" * * Many souls now in heaven must remember, that in the beginning of their religious course, he sought them, followed them, and would not let them go. * * He excelled particularly in the conduct of delicate and desponding natures, with whom religious emotion was apt to be complicated with nervous derangement. The desponding religious inquirer was often surprised by a series of questions as to *air, exercise, diet, and habits of life*, such as are generally introductory examinations of a physician. Sometimes, to persons in a state of terror and suffering, resulting from an over-excitement of the nervous system, he would prescribe a week or a fortnight of almost entire cessation from all religious offices, with a course of gentle muscular exercise and diversion."

We doubt whether "clinical theology" and "muscular Christianity" are synonymous terms, but they seem to tend towards the same result. Bracing the nervous system and enlarging the mind was the old minister's favourite treatment for those of his congregation who consulted him about the state of their souls, and he thus led "hundreds of sensitive and troubled spirits to the firm ground of a cheerful, intelligent, religious hope"; and it would be well if all great "revivalists" were equally discriminating as to the effect of physical disease and nervous depression on the overwrought and excitable brains of their converts. "Oh, why," exclaims Dr. Beecher, on reading the memoirs of a celebrated minister, "why will they print out all the horrors of a man's dyspepsia?" Perhaps it was owing to the pressure of the times, rather than to his own inclination, that this shrewd old man made a "revival" the grand business of his life.

Some of his "experiences" in these matters are very entertaining, and so quaintly blended is his religious zeal with his natural humour that it is difficult to believe he speaks in sober seriousness:—

"We had heard that there was some interest in Dr. Griffin's church, and it was a time for revivals throughout the bounds of Synod. We called on the doctor, and he marched in, as big as *Polyphemus*. 'How is it with you, Brother Griffin?' said Woolnorth; 'I hear there are good things among you here.' He swelled with emotion and his strong frame shook, and the tears rolled down his cheeks. 'Thank God!' said he, 'I can pray once more.' As we conversed, and afterwards as we mixed in the meetings, the fire caught in our bosoms. We felt sad in looking back on the darkness in our parishes. We conferred together and resolved to go home and labour for a revival in our churches. * * I could not wake up the church—I felt the revival in my heart, but it was long, long before it came. I set up an evening meeting.

and the unconverted young people came more than the church. I told my church, 'I'm going to keep up the meeting, and if you won't come, I'll worship with the young people that have no religion—they'll have some soon, unless I mistake.' Finally, I began to predict, and was so earnest and confident that a great work was at hand, that some of the good people wondered. They made me think of hens in the night, when you carry a candle into the hen-roost, how they open first one eye and then the other, half asleep. So they looked and wondered what I could see, to make me think there was to be a revival. But for some time there was no effect to anything I could do—I could not write any sermons that would take hold. Finally, I resolved that I would preach the doctrine of Election. I knew what that doctrine was, and what it would do. So I took my text Eph. i. 3-6, and went to work. My object was to preach cut and thrust, hip and thigh, and not to ease off. I had been working a good part of the year with my heart burning, and they feeling nothing. Now I took hold without mittens."

We could make endless quotations of the same kind, but we must content ourselves with only one more. On the subject of duelling Dr. Beecher came out strong. He had written a famous sermon, which, in spite of many difficulties, was published, and a few stray copies even found their way to New York, and caused it to be said, that "the light in the golden candlestick of East Hampton began to be seen afar." When Synod met at Newark, in New Jersey, however, the Doctor met with violent opposers. Duelling was a popular practice there, and it was determined to check this new doctrine:—

"It suddenly raised such a storm as I never was in, before or since. The opposition came up like a squall, sudden and furious, and there I was; the thunder and lightning right in my face—but I did not back out. When my turn came I rose and knocked away their arguments, and made them ludicrous. Never made an argument so strong and pointed in my life—I shall never forget it. There was a large body;—house full; my opponent, a D.D., and I was only thirty, a young man nobody had ever heard of. I shall never forget the looks of Dr. Miller, after I began to let off. He put on his spectacles, came round till he got right opposite to where I stood, and there he stared at me, with perfect amazement. Oh! I declare, if I did not switch 'em, and scorch 'em, and stamp on 'em! It swept all before it. Dr. — made no reply. It was the centre of old fogysm, but I mowed it down and carried the vote of the house. An impression was made that never ceased."

In spite, however, of all this zeal and energy, the worthy minister's worldly concerns did not prosper so well as could be wished. He had married a lady called Roxana Foote, and children arrived in quick succession. Perhaps Dr. Beecher's vehemence wore out the patience of his flock, for they began to discover that their pastor and his wife were "wanting in economy," and felt unwilling to increase his stipend in proportion to his needs. He fell into bad health, and was not able to preach for some months; and one old member of his congregation announced that he would no longer pay his rates. "What is the reason," he said, "you ministers are so hungry for money?" "I don't know," said I, "unless it is that we see our people growing covetous and going to hell, and want to get it away from them." Even this cutting repartee had no effect, and the Doctor found it expedient to have "a call," and to remove to a larger and more lucrative sphere of action. He appears to have gone on a speculative tour round the country, "reviving" whenever he found an opportunity, and the more success he had in "reviving" the greater his chance of "a call." The old fellow talks of it quite openly, as an actor might do who is staring about, seeking for a good provincial engagement. He writes to his mother-

in-law, "I preached three Sabbaths in New York, and came as near having a call, as the fellow did being killed who came to the field the day after the battle." After much anxiety, he at length found an opening at Litchfield. "The meeting of the society was holden here on Tuesday last," he says, in a letter to his wife; "it was very full, containing double the number, John Reeve says, he had ever known to attend, and the result, to the astonishment of every one, was a unanimous vote to give me a call, and a vote almost unanimous to give a salary of 800 dollars per annum. The probability now is, that the providence of God will station me here."

If this book had been strictly what it professes to be—the autobiography and correspondence of Dr. Beecher,—it would have been interesting and curious, for all that the old man writes and says is clever and sagacious, though he seems to have been almost childish and doting when he related his story to his family; but in order to make up the two thick volumes, of which this book of 500 pages is the first, it has been necessary to fill up the gaps with the most foolish and trivial anecdotes regarding the whole Beecher connexion. One daughter writes her childish recollections of dear "grandma Foote"; another contributes a long description of "aunt Esther" and "aunt Harriet." Letters from both Dr. Beecher's wives to all their relations are duly printed, and all his children's attempts at letter-writing, from their earliest infancy, are laid before the public as if they were documents of importance. Of course, we are never spared an item of anything relating to Harriet or Henry Ward, however slightly they may be mentioned. We are expected to read with deep interest that Mrs. Beecher would have sent Harriet a flannel slip if she had found an opportunity, and that the child must have new shoes; and another of the good lady's letters is published merely to say that "the boy (Henry Ward) had arrived in merry trim," and that his mother "left her goggles in a paper-box for combs, on the toilet table," at the place where she slept the first night of her journey—an interesting fact, no doubt, to her sister, at the time—but really possessing no very strong claim on our interest after a lapse of fifty years.

The worst specimen of this kind of book-making occurs in a letter from "Catherine to Edward" to say that the cat is dead! and that Harriet was chief mourner at her funeral, and wanted an "epithet" for her gravestone—which is accordingly given by the elder sister as follows:—

Here died our kit,
Who had a fit,
And acted queer—
Shot with a gun
Her race is done,
And she lies here.

What purpose can be served by the publication of such nonsense? Surely it cannot be supposed that it is necessary to be a child of the great Dr. Beecher in order to want new shoes and flannel petticoats, or to make doggerel verses on a cat? If the second volume of this work is to contain as much useless matter as the first does, we shall be in no great anxiety to greet its appearance.

Flora of Surrey; or, a Catalogue of the Flowering Plants and Ferns found in the County, with the Localities of the Rarer Species. From the Manuscripts of the late J. D. Salmon, and from other Sources. Compiled for the Holmesdale Natural History Club, Reigate, by James Alexander Brewer. (Van Voorst.)

SOME years since Mr. J. D. Salmon, of Godalming, and a few friends, resolved, at a meeting

held in Guildford, to procure materials for the publication of a Flora of the county of Surrey. Mr. Salmon undertook to receive and arrange the materials. Working energetically, he was gradually completing his task, when death, three years ago, put a stop to the undertaking. At the sale of his effects in the autumn of 1861, all the manuscripts and specimens relating to the Flora of Surrey were bought by the Holmesdale Natural History Club, with a view to publishing a list of the flowers and ferns of the county. These manuscripts and specimens were put into the hands of Mr. Brewer. Mr. Salmon was assisted by nearly half a score of eminent botanists; and Mr. Brewer presents his thanks for aid and information to another group of observers and collectors. Mr. Prestwich has drawn and coloured a geological map of Surrey expressly for this Flora. The county has been divided into nine districts, which are differently coloured and marked with capital letters, according to the plan of Mr. Salmon. And the result of all these labours is a Flora worthy of more than ordinary notice for its excellence.

Surrey, an inland county in the south-east of England, is an oblong quadrangle, thirty-nine and a half miles long, and twenty-six and a half miles broad, bordered on the north by the Thames, on the east by Kent, on the south by Sussex, and on the west by Hampshire and Berkshire. It is a county of varied scenery; bold hills, wooded dales, wild heaths, and cultivated plains. Two of its streams run into the Arun; and its three rivers, the Wey, the Mole, and the Wand, with the rivulets Bourne Brook, Hogg's Mill River, and Cheam, flow into the Thames. The eastern portion of the south-eastern division is drained by the Medway, and belongs therefore to the Medway basin, the whole of the rest of the county belonging to the basin of the Thames. Marshes and streams have of course their own vegetation. The soils of Surrey consist of valley alluvium, superficial gravel, Bagshot sands, London clay, Reading and Woolwich beds, Thanet sands, chalk, upper greensand and gault, lower greensand, weald clay, and Hastings sand. On these soils, with marshes, ponds and streams, grow the plants of Surrey.

The flowers and ferns of this metropolitan county amount to three-fifths of the whole of the British species. According to the last edition of the 'London Catalogue of British Plants,' they amount in all to 1,566, of which 984 are found in Surrey. This is a fact worthy to be made a note of. Three-fifths of the whole of the plants in the United Kingdom may be gathered in a single county lying in the basin of the Thames. Some indeed of the best of the field botanists who have contributed descriptions of localities to this Flora are gentlemen who have spent their lives, from sixteen to sixty, working from Monday to Saturday, and from ten till four, at desks in the City. What they have done this book will make it comparatively easy for others to do. Relief and recreation from sedentary toil, and a good initiation into the science of Botany, may now be obtained by any one possessed of Brewer's Flora and a Botanical Manual during the long walks and short rambles, rides, drives and excursions needful for health in the course of a few years.

Surrey is deficient in several groups of plants, and it has a few species peculiar to it. An inland and not a mountainous county, it is deficient in Seabath (Frankeniaceæ), Tamarisk (Tamarisacæ), Knotwort (Ilcebracæ), found only in Devonshire and Cornwall, Leadwort (Plumbaginacæ), Sea-buckthorn (Elaagnacæ), Birthwort (Aristolochiacæ), Crowberry (Empetracæ) and Cordrush (Ericaulacæ).

Of the 984 species and 65 varieties of Surrey

plants, only five species are peculiar, and but one both peculiar and indigenous to the county. The four peculiar and naturalized species are the Tawny Touch-me-not (*Impatiens fulva*), a native of North America; the Turk's-cap Lily (*Lilium Martagon*), apparently introduced, but perfectly naturalized; Hairy Finger-grass (*Digitaria sanguinalis*), and Common Box (*Buxus sempervirens*). Box grows wild only in Surrey, where it is found flowering on dry chalky hills in May and June. It is plentiful in the woods of Gatton Park, and abundant on Boxhill, near Dorking. The plant which is deemed both peculiar and indigenous to Surrey is the Cut-leaved Annual Germander (*Teucrium botrys*). *Teucrium* is said to be derived from *Teucer*, the name of the Trojan prince, who first used the plant medicinally. *Germander* is a compound Greek word, signifying ground-oak, the leaves resembling those of the oak, and *Botrys* is a bunch. *Teucrium botrys* therefore means the Bunch-like Ground-oak.

There is, of course, considerable differences in the degrees of precision with which the habitats of the plants are pointed out by different observers. Some of these indications of localities are so vague (as they are in most botanical manuals), that they may cause many students to lose days in vain searches for them. But in general the localities are pointed out with sufficient and sometimes with remarkable precision; and notable for this merit are the descriptions of localities signed J. S. Mill, for the author of 'A System of Logic' and 'Principles of Political Economy' has for many years been one of the keenest and most successful of field botanists.

As a specimen of the sort of help given to the collector by this work in reference to about one thousand plants, we extract—

"Villarsia, Vent.—1. *V. nymphaeoides*, Vent. Nymphaea-like Villarsia. Ponds and slow rivers. P. July, August.—A. Near Isleworth Ferry, in the ditch between the Park and the Thames; *A. Williamson*. Thames, below Kingston; in most of the ponds on Wandsworth Common; *W. Pamplin*. Clapham Common; *J. S. Mill*. Plentiful in the canal by the side of the railway, near New Cross Station; *Ed.*—B. At intervals all along the Thames from Kingston to Weybridge; more plentiful on the Middlesex side, except about Walton Bridge, where it occurs in great plenty on the Surrey side; *H. C. Watson*. In the water of Otlands Park, near Weybridge; *J. S. Mill*."

Botany is one of the many sciences which young men have now to get up for examination in a way unknown to their fathers, and we know no helps for them over their difficulties more desirable and more needed than complete and exact county Floras, like this 'Flora of Surrey.'

Travels in Mexico, South America, &c. By G. T. Vigne, Esq. With Illustrations. 2 vols. (Allen & Co.)

DEAD alike to praise and blame is the traveller whose journeyings by land and water in the Western Hemisphere are recorded in these pleasant volumes, which, in freshness of observation and manly geniality, bear resemblance to their author's previous works, 'A Personal Visit to Ghuzni, Cabul and Afghanistan' and 'Travels in Kashmir, Ladak, &c.' Scarcely was the manuscript in the printer's hands when Mr. Vigne died, leaving to others the task of revising his copy, and giving those last corrections to the proof-sheets which the author himself was not permitted to make. In this respect, the book has been produced under a disadvantage that justifies its publishers in craving for critical leniency, although it would perhaps have been more prudent to let so excellent a narrative make good its own claim to respectful

attention, unsupported by a recommendation to mercy.

As a traveller, the chief object of whose wanderings was personal amusement, Mr. Vigne differed from the literary tourists who scamper over every region of the earth seeking materials for books. Bent less on immediate enjoyment than a handsome cheque from a London publisher, the ordinary scribe-errant of the nineteenth century is frequently an entertaining companion when, in well-printed octavo pages, he recounts his adventures by land and sea to fireside circles; but his views are usually superficial and his statements far from trustworthy. Dreading an imputation of dullness as a charge that would seriously injure the marketable value of his productions, he is over-anxious to amuse, and prone to subordinate higher aims to the applause of idle readers. On board of steamboat or on back of camel, amidst the crowds of distant cities or in the loneliness of the prairie, he is but an intellectual bagman, a caterer of quips and pleasantries for patrons at home.

Mr. Vigne was neither a professional author nor a commissioned tourist; but he was what the commissioned tourist ought always to be, and in all respects he did what the traveller in search of materials for a book ought invariably to do. With a liberal and well-stored mind, he visited foreign lands to gratify a natural taste for travel; and wherever he went he honestly tried to understand, for his own pleasure and edification, the men whom he encountered and the objects which were presented to his notice. So long as he had something to study that was worthy of patient investigation, he made small account of time, often spending in an unknown village a greater number of days than a mere scampering excursionist would devote of hours to a famous capital. He travelled leisurely and thought leisurely, and he filled his diary with clear, concise notes, penned with a view to his own permanent gratification, not for the transient amusement of subscribers to circulating libraries—notes by which in a distant future, never, alas! to be reached, he hoped to strengthen and intensify that reflective enjoyment which rewards an aged traveller for the toils and perils of his vigorous years.

Starting from Southampton in the November of 1851, Mr. Vigne crossed the Atlantic in the then gigantic steamer *Oronoko*, coasting along the West Indian islands before he made acquaintance with the continent. After landing at Vera Cruz, and staying in Mexico, he returned to the islands. Steaming up to Kingston harbour, he noted the tomb of "M. Galdy, who was swallowed up by the earthquake of December 22nd, 1736, and having been again ejected into the sea, saved himself by swimming." Amongst the traveller's notes on Jamaica, mention is made of an old negro who well deserves a passing word. "An aged negro," says Mr. Vigne, "who was always addressed by the name of 'Old Russia,' had lately died at Port Royal. Upon investigation it was ascertained that when Nelson with the *Hinchinbrooke* (June, 1779) was in command of the batteries at Port Royal, he had taken an interest in a little negro child, had stood sponsor for him, had given him his own name, and that 'Old Russia' was only a negro modification of 'Horatio.' Speaking of the same island and its capital, Mr. Vigne says—

"The Government House, built of brick, is conspicuous by its size and flag among the gardens and larger dwellings on the upper part of the town. In the principal church is a tablet informing us that 'Admiral Benbow of the *White*, a true pattern of English courage, lost his life, much

lamented, in defence of his Queen and country, after his victory on November 4th, 1702. To the more modern names known in connexion with Jamaica, such as that of Smollett (who kept a chemist's shop in Kingston) and 'Monk' Lewis, it may be remarked that Bradshaw, son of the Speaker of the Rump Parliament, is known to have died there, as did also Lambert, Cromwell's secretary, Waite and Scott, who desired no better epitaph than one recording he had had a hand in the death of the king. Blagrove and Harrison have still their representatives in the island. Many of the prisoners taken at Sedgemoor were sent here and sold as slaves after their condemnation by Jeffries at 'the Bloody Assizes;' and the 'sic erat olim' of the Littlejohns, with the archer's arm drawing the forest bow, as a crest, is evidence of descent from the hero of Sherwood."

At Falmouth Races the traveller witnessed a lively scene:—

"I thought it not fair to judge exclusively of the state of the island by the appearance of the people at Falmouth races, because of course everybody seemed happy and contented for the time. The racing was good and well managed by the stewards, with John D—, Esq., at the head of them, much respected as the father of the turf and the owner of the best brood mares in the island. To say nothing of several gentlemen's carriages and numerous vehicles and the fair occupants of the Grand Stand, the scene was enlivened by crowds of gaily-dressed negroes, seemingly in high good humour, some in straw bonnets with gaudy ribbons, but most of them wearing the bandana on the head in every possible variety of shape. Various meanings are often recognizable in the folds of their headdress. An admirer reads encouragement or receives a repulse; love, hatred, jealousy, insult to a rival, are indicated by some particular mode of adjustment; and one particular tie, with the corners sticking out like horns, was understood by the initiated to signify on the part of the wearer, 'Come what may, I don't care a d—!' Some of the negro sayings are not without point. Of a niggardly person they would remark that he was 'Covege (covetous) as a star-apple,' an obstinate fruit that does not drop until it is not only ripe, but rotten and useless. 'Quetty (quartilla, a very small coin) bring troubles; hundred pound won't take 'em off. Sweet word no fill belly. Every day pitcher go to the well; one day bottom come out. If nigger hate you, he give you basket to carry water!' that is, is always trying to annoy you; which is the case with Hindustani servants also."

About the free negroes, the author bears testimony both adverse and favourable. Indolence and grotesque impudence were their ordinary characteristics; but he saw enough to satisfy him that the nigger would sometimes work industriously and in most respects live after the fashion of honest citizens, without the stimulus of the white man's whip. Occasionally, he encountered darkies of whom he writes—

"Better specimens of the race, naturally less indolent, who had bought their land with money they had saved, or rented it at about 12. an acre annually, and having amassed a little property, think it worth while to work for more, and obtain regular employment. Many of this class are good and respectable men, but with a love of importance and a certain amount of self-esteem. If one of these negroes be the owner of a pony, he may be generally seen riding him to church, in his best blue coat with brass buttons, whilst his wife, in her gaudiest attire, is as certainly seen walking behind him or by his side. As a mass, however, I believe they are generally considered to be civil and well-behaved, although there are opinions as to negro merits varying to opposite extremes. They are well acquainted with their own independence, and show it (as the free negroes will sometimes endeavour to annoy a Southerner in New York,) by not allowing a gentleman's carriage as much room as they might do, without any forfeiture of their birthright. 'I am a free man, sir,' was the only answer or reason we received from a surly old negro, to whom we were obliged to shout, to

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make more room for a gig in a mountain road, and who was decidedly on his wrong side, and probably forgetting that we were free also."

In Nicaragua, Mr. Vigne made acquaintance with the Filibusters, and was introduced to General Walker, whom he found "a short man, slight and wiry, about thirty-five years of age, with an oval face, high forehead, large mouth, and sandy hair, and a rather fixed stare from very extraordinary and light-grey eyes." An old half-caste lady who had known Walker and his family for many years told Mr. Vigne that the General was in his boyhood destined for the Church, his fond relations thinking that he would make a "splendid clergyman." Of his prompt dealing with Col. Salazar, a member of an old and influential Nicaraguan family, who was detected in a conspiracy against him, the following account is given:—"Col. Salazar, is that your signature?" asked Walker, holding out one of the intercepted letters.—"Si, señor," was the reply.—"And that?"—"Si, señor."—"And that also?" inquired the general, handing a third paper to the traitor, to which inquiry the same brief "Si, señor" was returned. The investigation was at an end; and, assuming the functions of judge, as he laid aside those of public prosecutor, Walker brought the proceedings to an end by saying, "You are ordered for execution to-day at four o'clock, and I shall send you a priest that you may perform your religious duties." In accordance with this sentence, the Colonel was bowed out, and executed. Mr. Vigne's account of the origin of filibustering, and his sketches of the filibusters, will be perused with interest. "The almost entire absence of a clear idea of justice," says the author, "was sometimes observable in the conversation of the Filibusters. It was only to be inferred either that they did think about the question of right and wrong (I mean, of course, only with reference to their then occupation), or that they really believed in their right to 'Americanize,' and that invasion for that purpose was not only not to be deprecated by, but deserving of encouragement from, the Government of Washington." That the captain of these adventurers took a distorted view of life past and present may be seen from the accounts given of his public speeches. Haranguing the passengers of a steamer on his way to California, General Walker declared that "he thought there were but two great events in history—the Redemption, and the North American Struggle for Independence."

From Nicaragua Mr. Vigne went northwards to New Orleans, and thence to New York. During his stay in the former city the most popular caricature in the shop-windows was "a picture of Mrs. Beecher Stowe introducing Uncle Tom to some high society in England, a performance not without some pretensions to humour, but in which Uncle Tom was much the least vulgar person in the group." Of prairie scenery and prairie mosquitoes the author says much in a short space. As a means of lessening the irritation caused by the bites of the latter, he extols lemon-juice, applied with a feather to the part affected. Of the former he says, "The beauty of the open prairie, after its kind, as seen from any eminence, can hardly be exaggerated—a very ocean of long, elastic grass, whose nearest surface is coloured by its numerous flowers, and often alive with rolling waves of reflected light as it yields and bends to the winds that are driving over it. The colour of the verdure is gradually changed as it recedes into the blue distance, often marked by the sparkling water of a lake or morass, a low ridge or rounded knoll, with a few solitary trees." In New York he witnessed the extravagances of the spirit-rappers, whose strange

madness has already become, as far as this country is concerned, a folly of the past. From New York he went by sea to Rio Janeiro, thence to Buenos Ayres, and northwards again through the Argentine Republic, Bolivia, and Peru to Lima. No previous traveller has given better descriptions of Spanish America, its gorgeous scenery and dilapidated cities, the superstitions that pervade every rank, and the political jealousies that distract every class of society.

Of Mr. Vigne's Californian experiences Judge Lynch was an unpleasantly conspicuous feature. "It has been calculated," observes the author, "that, dividing the population by the number of murders annually, there are four (now, perhaps, five) in England to every million. In Italy it varies from one hundred to two hundred, but in California it amounts to six hundred in the million." In such a state of society as is indicated by this note Judge Lynch may, with good reason, be supported by public opinion.

A Series of Seven Essays on Universal Science, embracing some Investigations of the Mosaic Cosmogony, and the Interpretation of the Scriptures, with the Object of proving their Scientific Exactness. By T. Clark Westfield. (Hardwicke.)

WHEN Miss Ruth, in Dickens's novel, proposes to her brother to invest capital in the materials of a beefsteak pudding, she hopes he will not be vexed if her first attempt should turn out a stew, or a soup. But there was one comfort—"The meat must come out of the saucepan at last, somehow or other, you know; we can't cook it into nothing at all." We have this kind of comfort when we look into a commentary on Genesis; and further, we feel the force of Tom Pinch's remark—"It gives us a new and quite an uncommon interest in the dinner. We put into a lottery for a beefsteak pudding, and it is quite impossible to say what we may get."

The attempt now before us is founded on the notion that the writer of Genesis, as well as the writers of other books of the Old Testament, knew scientific truth, as now held, and spoke it. On this point we shall presently say a few words; but we have to add that, according to Mr. Westfield, they not only knew scientific truth, but a great deal more of primeval matters than have ever been found in them. We shall give our readers the account of the *Pre-Adamite Man*, which is not an oriental dream, not a subject for the author of 'Vathek,' but a clearly deducible, and tolerably well revealed, topic of the book, at which orthodoxy and heterodoxy have been nibbling for centuries.

This theory is not new, and it has been recently revived in a work which Mr. Westfield quotes and follows. All our readers are by this time aware of that kind of double and interlacing narrative which seems to prevail in the early part of the book of Genesis: and all have heard about the Elohist and the Jehovistic writers. The Pre-Adamite theory presumes that the seven days are seven long periods. Man—not Adam—was created at the end of the sixth period; and he was created male and female. There is no production of Eve from the rib of her husband, but the male and female live and propagate through the long seventh period, which may be millions of years: not in the garden of Eden, but spread over the earth. This Pre-Adamite is an angel, of the sort which afterwards appeared to Abraham: an angel with a body, who can eat fatted calf and kneaded cakes. At the end

of the seventh period the great rebellion arose, the chief of which, after his utter downfall tempted Eve in the form of a serpent. The earth had become partially disorganized, and at the Adamite creation, man was produced before the new race of animals. The reader may now instruct himself by examining the early chapters of Genesis on this rather unusual hypothesis.

These angelic men have left no memorials; at least so thinks the author who is followed. But Mr. Westfield fixes his thoughts upon the rude flints which geologists have found in the upper strata, and seems inclined to suppose that they are the weapons with which the pre-Adamites kept down the beasts from increasing too fast. He should have remembered the bones which have been found near the axes, if axes they were. These must have belonged to the pre-Adamite angel-men; and thus we have skeletons of the very race of those who, under the name of angels, supped with the patriarch Abraham, and ate his veal and bread. It is very strange, no doubt, that these glorified beings should have known a period at which they were utterly without art; in such manner that their relics contain implements as rude as those of our lowest communities. But we are yet in early days: who knows what more may be found in the drift? When there was war in heaven, Mr. Westfield informs us that the "heaven" spoken of was only the earth in its original glorious form. The battle between Michael and the dragon destroyed all its beauty, and left those traces of ruin which simple people have attributed to a deluge, or some similar natural convulsion. We can hardly suppose that the belligerents fought with flint axes. May not Milton's hypothesis be confirmed? May we not find great guns, such as may improve on Armstrong, Dahlgren, and the others? We are quite in earnest. If we have really found the axes of the race which at last became so strong as to defy their Creator, why may we not find more effective weapons? We cannot go so far as Mr. Westfield, without looking for a great deal more as absolutely necessary to our perfect assurance, and certain to come if there be any truth in the explanation.

We are told to believe that the writer of Genesis meant all this: that he intended to signify two creations of men. We are to assume that, with the help of actual inspiration, he had not the common sense to say what he meant, on so very plain a matter. In a narrative so written as to seem drawn from two writers, but which our author will have to be from one mind human, guided by one mind Divine, he has so completely confused what was meant for an account of two creations, that for thousands of years persons have read it as an account of one. What next? is the question that follows. If the physical history and the ethics be equally binding upon all who acknowledge the revelation, and if the physics be written in a manner which has misled those who were to be instructed for nearly three thousand years, who can assure us that the ethics may not have been equally misunderstood? This is a curious consideration: and those minds which must needs force and twist the Old Testament into a treatise on physics and geography would do well to address themselves to the answer. If the Moabites and the Philistines had got hold of the Law of Moses, and had treated it in the way in which many treat Genesis, they could easily have contrived a deduction of any amount of polytheism. What indeed had they to do but to assume that one Deity meant one at a time? For this is exactly what Mr. Westfield does. The account of what appears

to us one creation, subject to those difficulties which have brought out the hypothesis of two writers, is to be one at one time, another at another.

There are four stages in this subject. First, that in which physics is taken direct from the plain meaning of the words in Genesis. Secondly, that in which the progress of inquiry produces results at variance with that plain meaning, and leads to the conclusion that the sacred writer spoke the language of the world at large, in all matters unconnected with his special objects, religion and morals. Thirdly, that at which his ignorance of physical truth is made to impugn his authority as a teacher of religion. Fourthly, that in which a reaction takes place, under which he is forced to speak physical truth by distortion of his plain language. Mr. Westfield is far on in the fourth class, and we lag behind in the second.

To make the writers of the Old Testament imply modern physical theories seems to us a more hopeless task than that of Bluebeard's wife. As fast as they wash the old meaning out of one phrase, it turns up in another. But a little consideration will show that the Pre-Adamite theory is the more plausible of the two attempts. The difficulties which have led many to believe that there are two different narratives of creation in Genesis find a solution in the theory of a double creation: the objection is, that other difficulties, greater than those which were removed, are introduced by the new hypothesis.

But the attempt to make Genesis and Job speak in the language of modern theory creates a succession of perplexities far greater than those out of which it professes to deliver us, without making clear the deliverance itself.

Of Mr. Westfield we have only to say that he writes, as in his Preface he says he means to do, in an intelligible and straightforward manner. There is more in his book than we have space to detail, and the reader who takes interest in cosmogony will find it readable.

NEW NOVELS.

Vincenzo; or, Sunken Rocks. By John Ruffini. 3 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)—Upon the whole this novel is readable, though it is less satisfactory than Mr. Ruffini's previous stories. The principal characters want definiteness; and though it would be scarcely just to tax them with inconsistency, except in the case of the self-contradictory heroine, they are such indecisive personages that when they adopt a positive course of action, the reader, instead of being prepared for their conduct, is simply surprised at their taking any line of action whatever. The purpose of the story is to display the under-currents of domestic life in Italy at the present day, and to set forth the baneful effects of priestly influence on the women of the country,—and, through the women, on the noblest and most cultivated men, and on the highest interests of the land. As a picture of village life in the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel the tale is poor, lacking picturesque force, suggestiveness, and local colour. Were it not for the Italian names and titles, many chapters of the story might pass for descriptions of life in any European country where gardens are well kept and talk is common-place. The heroine is in her girlhood,—a pretty doll, a graceful waxen-faced nonentity, never giving utterance to a thought that betrays the sentimental purity and generous goodness of a refined and high-bred maiden. In this respect she is, no doubt, a faithful type of the well-shaped, comely, characterless, insipid girls of Italy,—or any other land. When the petted child, under the influence of feelings which altogether want the fire and frenzy of love, has married her father's protégé, the young and penniless Vincenzo, the reader is not surprised to see her figure as a querulous, discontented, selfish, mischief-making wife, preferring the control

of a priest to the authority of her husband, and, by petty opposition and contemptible narrow-mindedness, worrying the man whom she has sworn to love and honour. All this portion of the woman's life accords with the antecedent girlhood, and the reader is expressing approval of the picture given him of the consequences of priestly influence on the mind of an inferior woman, when he is staggered by the assurance that this mere doll, this toy woman, this puppet in petticoats, is a lady of unusual intellect and affectionate disposition. When Rose returns to her father's house, after driving her husband well-nigh mad by her childish obstinacy and waywardness, she becomes alike remarkable for energy and intelligence. "Rose in all respects was the ruling spirit of the palace."

She kept all the accounts, received the rents, paid the wages, directed the tilling of the land, directed the sales, invested the proceeds, wrote all the letters,—did everything with a clearness of head, a method, a spirit of order, which were quite astonishing in so young a woman." If Piedmontese priests can educate vain, self-willed girls to do all this, their system of instruction anyhow has much to recommend it. More astonishing still is it that the lovely Rose, after she has come into possession of her powerful intellect, and after she has learnt to admire her husband as one of the best and wisest of men, still remains so completely under the influence of early instructors, that she cannot be happy whilst Vincenzo is a civil servant of Victor Emmanuel's diabolical government. The story closes with a melancholy prospect for Vincenzo and his wife, as well as for the country which they are supposed to represent. After Vincenzo—the type of Italy's new generation—has been worried into throwing up his appointment by his foolish wife, and then been seduced into a second relinquishment of public service by tenderness for his penitent wife, he ends as a despondent idler, living on her wealth, and educating his only daughter so that she may not resemble her mother. "I am determined," writes Vincenzo to his friend Onofrio, "upon this, that my daughter shall not be the sort of clog in the way of the man who casts in his lot with her, which her mother has been in mine." Whereupon, Vincenzo the hero ceases to serve his country, and becomes—his wife's poodle, and his daughter's nursing-man. A dismal end this to a story which aims at displaying the heart of a gallant nation at the crisis of her regeneration. "Would to God," cries Mr. Ruffini in his last page, "at least, that the case of the Candias were an isolated one! But no: there is scarcely any corner in Italy, scarcely any corner in Europe, that does not exhibit plenty of such, and worse. God alone knows the number of families whose domestic peace has been of late years seriously damaged, or has gone to wreck altogether, on those very rocks which have proved so fatal to Vincenzo." Let Mr. Ruffini be comforted. Italy does not suffer because Vincenzo Candia has thrown up his post in Turin, and is now wheeling his child along the terraces of Rumelli in a perambulator. Men who surrender the great purposes of their lives to their wives' caprices, when a tumbler of cold water, a sniff of strong smelling salts, and a sound scolding would be the best treatment for their vapours, are not the men who can do any cause true service. The man who cannot keep his wife in order, and shut his door in the face of an intrusive priest, had better have as little as possible to do with work which decides the destinies of a great people.

Meadowleigh: a Tale of English Country Life. By the Author of 'The Ladies of Bever Hollow.' 2 vols. (Bentley).—'Meadowleigh' is a tale with a mild, pleasant interest of its own;—a refined and gentle spirit pervades it, which is as refreshing as a breath of country air after the heated atmosphere of ambitious sensation novels. The story would have gained by compression—it is too sketchy, and the interest is weakened by the action of the most important point of the tale being detailed in long letters instead of being put into action. There is a shirking of trouble and labour which slackens the spirit of the book. The materials of the tale are slight enough; Miss Clairvaux, a benevolent elderly gentlewoman, whose originality borders on

eccentricity, takes, from motives of kindness, a young girl to be her companion, the daughter of an artist, who has died, and left his family in reduced circumstances. Miss Clairvaux is a charming person, drawn with a delicate and firm touch; with all her peculiarities of temper and manner, she is a genuine English lady, about whom it is pleasant to read. Eleanor Graydon, her protégée, is a very nice young woman, who enjoys living with Miss Clairvaux; and well she may, for their life at the Three Parks is a tempting picture of elegant thrift and rural comfort. 'Meadowleigh' is a good picture of a retired, quiet, and rather dull English village, and the style of society is well described. Miss Clairvaux does a great deal of good, after her own fashion; but she battles with overseers and disputes about her taxes in a fashion which affords a pretext for a grasping relative to bring forward a charge of insanity, in order to get her fortune into his own administration. During the temporary absence of Eleanor she is spirited away to a lunatic asylum, but no one knows where. The search for her, the discovery, and the liberation, make the main plot of the tale, which, though light, agreeable reading, might have been made much better by a little exertion and painstaking. Toby Dick, the clown, is an amusing and certainly a novel character; he seems to be a sketch from the life.

A Woman's Ransom. By Frederick William Robinson. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett).—Of all Mr. Robinson's novels 'A Woman's Ransom' is the most deficient in those qualities which make the reader of a story feel that he is perusing a narrative of actual experiences. An architect's clerk, after a lengthened period of poverty and disappointment, is engaged to build a mansion in the north of England, for a widow lady, named Mary Zitman. Mrs. Zitman is young, beautiful, and rich, in the possession of her late husband's estate, which she holds so long as she remains a widow, but must resign on marrying a second time. A rascally brother lives with Mrs. Zitman; he exercises mysterious tyranny over her mind, manages her estate, spends her money, and takes every possible precaution to prevent her from again becoming a wife. The young architect, Canute Gear, speedily falls in love with his fair employer, and she consents to relinquish her life interest in the Nettlewood estates and become his wife. They are married, and up to the time of their marriage the reader is under the impression that Mary Zitman is the woman whose ransom from bondage to her brother gives the name to the story. But just as the delicate lady becomes a builder's wife, another distressed female appears on the scene, in the person of Ellen Gear, Canute's sister, who has become the wife of Mrs. Zitman's atrocious brother. Scenes of family feud, violence, and suffering follow; and at the conclusion of the third volume Ellen Gear, after wading through strangely confused and confusing experiences of misfortune and anguish, is ransomed. From what the lady is saved we cannot state with certainty, and we are equally in doubt as to the exact means by which her ransom is effected; for throughout the last volume of the tale we were contending with sleep as well as with the complexities of the story. In short, 'A Woman's Ransom' is a poor fiction, by a writer who has given promise of good works.

The Mortons of Bardon: a Lancashire Tale. 3 vols. (Newby).—This Lancashire tale is, we imagine, a first production: there is a lack of skill in the management of the story, and the author needs practice; but there is promise of better things by-and-by. There is a good deal of cleverness displayed, but the tale, as a whole, does not hang together. Too much space is taken up about an election, and the remainder of the tale is stunted; we might find fault with the style whenever the author intends to be particularly eloquent. The characters of Job Filton and his sister Sally are very clever; Walter Morton himself, and the young lady of his affections, are not much to our taste. The points which indicate that the author has it in him to do better are the incidental touches and some of the secondary characters.

Keeping Afloat; or, the Meeting at the Morgue: a Novel. (Skeet).—This novel opens as follows:

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"Earl Besso was sitting with his only son, Lord Hawke, in his library in Audley Street, Westminster, on the forenoon of a cold November day, about ten years ago." They are engaged in serious and earnest conversation regarding nothing less than the ruin which lies before them, and they propose by way of remedy, in the most plain-spoken and cynical English, to entrap a "rich plebeian" into marriage with the only daughter of the house of Besso, the Lady Bertha Acland. The "rich plebeian" is named Arkley, and he is the son of an old millionaire; but the young man does not prove an ardent lover. To hasten matters, Lord Hawke proposes to his sister "to have a dinner at Seven Oaks," to which he accordingly invites Arkley and Mr. Merther, who is his sister's secret lover, but too poor to marry. They all "ride leisurely down, on a cold morning about the middle of January," Lord Hawke, who had abundance of conversation, "lightened the road with stories of the days of old, when the road they travelled was overrun with highwaymen—their adventures—the solitary houses by the way, which they used to frequent and conceal their booty, and revel over their cups." The party have an excellent dinner at the Royal Hotel, Seven Oaks. "Hour after hour passed, and the wine and conversation flagged not; a little excess of the sparkling liquid had made her (Lady Bertha's) colour somewhat high, but it added a brilliancy to her look and eyes that she seldom displayed." The young man proposes to Lady Bertha "as they ride back to Audley Street" in the evening. Lord Hawke and his friend Merther poison old Mr. Arkley (as they imagine), that his son may enter on his inheritance, but they are disgusted to find that his fortune is only two hundred thousand pounds, and an estate worth twenty thousand more. The young man marries the Lady Bertha; his money is all spent by the family; the unlucky man's ruin is brought to his knowledge at "a grand rout—where half the fashionable world had flaunted their frail humanities, clothed in gay silks and gauzes; glittering, high-sounding names, belonging to very questionable pieces of mortality; lips that smiled by machinery; and fluttering robes that rustled mid the hissing of calumny." "A menial" brings Arkley "a business-like letter on a silver salver," which he opens, and finds it to be a protested bill for six thousand pounds. The letter, which falls from his "abandoned grasp," is "pounced upon by a lady of high rank sitting near," who "devours the contents" and announces them to the whole company, who simultaneously "fly from the door as from a charnel-house." Lady Bertha looks at her husband with the deepest scorn, "then, rising suddenly, struck the table next her a violent blow, that damaged considerably the character of both china and glass." She elopes with her lover. Her husband discovers his father to be alive and well, behind a secret panel in the old manor house—a servant resembling him having been poisoned in his stead. The old man embraces his son, and tells him that he is worth more than three millions of money. The remainder of the story is a confused succession of catastrophes. Lady Bertha drowns herself, and is found, by her brother and lover, lying in the Morgue. Lord Hawke is shut up in the vault of a lonely house in Paris, by a *dameuse* whom he has deceived.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Cruise of the 'Humming Bird'; or, Notes near Home. By Mark Hatton. (Tinsley Brothers.) If a title were meant for "a match"—to use haberdasher language—with the contents of a book, this volume of Irish sketches ought to have been christened 'The Cruise of the Stormy Petrel,' for the tales are principally tales of chicanery, intrigue, controversy, and priestcraft,—some of them interesting enough, and all well told. They are strung together on a dark thread of family history, which is finally knotted up, by the restitution of ill-gotten gains, the discomfiture of Papistical cunning and wickedness, and the peaceful and prosperous marriage of one who, throughout the cruise, had been sailing under the oppressive and lurid shadow of injustice and wrong to be avenged. What we said not long since in

respect to 'The Accursed One,'—as to the fruitlessness of novels on such themes, applies to these stories also, but "with a difference." Mr. Hutton shows no favour to the weaknesses and bigotries of Protestantism, in order, by contrast, to blacken Roman Catholicism. For much that unhappily goes wrong in the neighbouring island he holds the "Scripture Reader" to be as responsible as the Jesuit. The two figures, however, when confronted, make, to our thinking, a sorry show in fiction. Might it not be well for those inclined to take such arguments in hand to recollect, that in turns Miss Edgeworth and Lady Morgan, and Mary Leadbetter, and Banim, and Griffin, and Carleton, and Otway, have all devoted the genius of fiction to Irish abuses? Yet even now, how small is the amount of remedy which has been wrought by so powerful a phalanx of pleaders! The discouraging result is worth taking to heart.

A Wreath of Carols from the Fatherland. By the Author of 'Footprints of the Holy Dead.' (Macintosh.)—This book is composed of translations from German Christmas Carols, a class of poems exceedingly rich in beautifully expressed thoughts. Several of the examples are taken from songs of the early part of the sixteenth century, a time when German verse retained much of its ancient vigour and picturesqueness, and combined those qualities with the deep devotional feeling that characterized the early Protestant muse. The selection before us has been happily made, and its items are rendered with much spirit. We should like to see it produced on a larger and more comprehensive scale, so as to include many verses that have a great force even in these times. In place of several specimens that cannot be reckoned in the class designated, we should have preferred others to express the tone of religious sentiment as it existed in the time in question. A complete collection of the Christmas Carols is desirable, especially if dating from the time when Martin Luther sang them in the streets of Eisenach, "my own dear Eisenach"—as he styled it, when he begged "*panem propter Deum*" in his boyhood. As the series before us is produced, it includes 'A Solis Ortus Cardine,' of Luther, 'Our Heritage secured' (1561), 'The Bright and Morning Star' (1583)—a simple and affecting chant, well translated. The descriptive carol 'Good King Wenzlaus' is full of spirit, and is very elegantly expressed. The legend of St. Martin's almsgiving is freely given in 'The Three Knights of St. Martin.' To those who appreciate simple, homely and earnestly devotional verse we commend this little book, with many thanks to the author.

The Golden Rule, and other Stories for Children. By Miss M. C. Hume. (Pitman.)—This author knows well how to write little tales such as real children may take delight in reading. These before us are produced in a very simple and natural way, wholly free from the stilted or the sentimental errors so common in works of a religious shade intended for juvenile reading. Miss Hume does not aim at representing character in the poor fashion which dwells rather upon the peculiarities of utterance—the grammatical errors of uneducated persons in the poorer walks of life,—so much as by expressing the honest and genial thoughts of men, women and children. She knows how to describe good folks without a tinge of the Pharisaical mood that haunts so many books of this class. Her children are unaffected, her women kindly, and the conversations she relates are given with natural grace. The result is that a child may read this book without being bored, and a grown-up person will certainly not put it into the fire, as most of us wish to do with certain works of its kind.

Ignorant Learned; or, Researches after "the long-lost" Mysteries of Freemasonry. Also, the *Eleusinian Mysteries*. By H. Melville, R.A.C. (Newby.)—Hear him! "Have the liberal sciences of Grammar, Logic, Rhetoric, Arithmetic, Geometry, or Music, received improvement during the present, said to be enlightened, age? As to Astronomy, the theoretical part of the science is a lost knowledge. Looking through a long tube, and jotting down on paper the various positions of the stars, may be

a very interesting study to those who may be satisfied therewith, but, after all, it is a mere mechanical occupation. Among the ancients, astronomy veiled a multitude of mysteries." This depreciation of the results of modern science is as if the telegraph should declare that the locomotive goes no faster than a coach. Mr. Melville has results so much grander than those of modern geometry and astronomy, that he could well afford to leave these poor sciences all their power. By the title and the above quotation, the reader will give a good guess at the book; but there is one thing we must tell him, for he never could have found it out for himself. Mr. Melville asks whether some learned professor could interpret the French *Di-manche*. Confident in the want of power of the learned, he proceeds to it at once:—*Di-manche* means *day with the handle*. Friday has also, in French, a "hidden and mystic meaning": *Vendredi* is the "selling day," and on that day the Saviour was sold for thirty pieces of silver. Truly the circle-squarers have powerful rivals.

Golden Words. (J. H. & J. Parker.)—A nicely-printed book, containing extracts from divines of the Church of England, from Addison to Withers, alphabetically, and from Coverdale to Barrow, or thereabouts, chronologically. Those who would like to try a slice of the old English Protestant theologian will find this collection answer the purpose. The subjects are rather devotional than doctrinal.

Pure Logic; or, the Logic of Quality apart from Quantity: with Remarks on Boole's System and on the Relation of Logic and Mathematics. By W. S. Jevons, M.A. (Stanford.)—To give this remarkable book a few words—and we cannot give more—we must be so technical that we warn all but technical readers off the whole of our paragraph. Mr. Jevons adopts to a certain extent Mr. Boole's symbols: but he professes to oppose and abandon much of the *calculus*, and also to base his whole system on the metaphysical side of logic, as it has been called. That is to say, his terms are notions compounded of qualities, instead of genera formed by cumulation of species. We should by all means desire that those who attend to the logical controversies of our day should pay attention to a work of much talent, and abounding in acute remarks. But we like this book much better when taken apart, than when considered in contrast to Mr. Boole's system. We are by no means sure that *quality* is separated altogether from *quantity*: but this we pass. The greatest point is this. In rejecting Mr. Boole's *calculus*, Mr. Jevons declares that $A + B$ is the representative of all that is in both notions, A and B . Mr. Boole, with whom we agree, gives $A + B = AB$. Mr. Boole admits the *universal* notion, and, by implication, would admit the selection of a part of the universe as *the sphere or universe of the terms of a syllogism*. All this Mr. Jevons rejects: and we do not. The consequence is that when Mr. Jevons lays down

$$A = B + C \quad B = \text{not-}C + \text{not-}D$$

the contradiction which these propositions contain is pronounced by him to be "subtle." Not so in Mr. Boole's system, in which an algebraist brings out the result by mere calculus as follows:—

$$\begin{aligned} A &= B + C - BC \\ B &= (1 - C) + (1 - D) - (1 - C)(1 - D) \\ &= 1 - CD \\ A &= 1 - CD + C - (1 - CD)C \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

or A is a universal term, which Mr. Jevons calls "contradictory of a law of thought." Whether or no, it is here shown that the calculus supplies the place of the subtle deduction; and though this one subtlety is manageable without calculus, there are others which are not so. This subject, however, has not been long on the anvil; and many matters may demand further discussion. We are glad to see a chance of their receiving it. But $A + A = A$ and the doctrine of the universal term contradictory of a law of thought, we reject altogether. Mr. Jevons entitles us to do so. "If" a certain proposition "be granted," the universal notion "must be regarded as contradictory of a law of thought." There is no "must be regarded" about logical contradiction, which knocks a knock

of its own that cannot be mistaken. Who would say that "all are black" must be regarded as a contradiction of "some are white." The very words used show that there is no contradiction in the writer's mind.

Our Reprints include a copy of Mr. Henry Taylor's *Poems*, in 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall), a book which will be welcome to many readers,—also *The Cities of the Past*, by Frances Power Cobbe (Tribner & Co.), a series of papers reprinted from reviews, —and *Household Education*, by Harriet Martineau, which appears in a new edition, from the firm of Smith, Elder & Co.—We have also before us a *Stereotype Edition of the Scottish School-Book Association's Elements of Algebra* (Glasgow, Collins).—Among Translations we have *Lyra Domestica, Second Series, Christian Songs and Hymns*, translated from the German of C. J. P. Spitta and other favourite Hymn-Writers, by Richard Massie (Longman),—and *The Addresses of the Hungarian Diet of 1861 to H.I.M. the Emperor of Austria, with the Imperial Receipt and other Documents*, translated by J. Horne Payne (Bell & Daldy).—Our Second Editions include *The Ice Maiden and other Tales*, by Hans Christian Andersen, translated from the German by Fanny Fuller (Tribner & Co.),—*Morning and Evening Services for Households*, by the Rev. A. B. Evans (Skeffington),—and Mr. Leone Levi's *International Commercial Law: being the Principles of Mercantile Law* (Stevens, Sons & Haynes).—Our Third Editions include Mr. Banting's *Letter on Corpulence* (Harrison),—and Dr. Whitehead's *Rate of Mortality in Manchester* (Churchill).—We have a Fifth Edition of *A Guide to Geology*, by John Phillips (Longman),—an Eleventh Edition of *The Complete Grazier and Farmer's and Cattle-Breeder's Assistant: a Compendium of Husbandry*, by W. Youatt, brought down to the present requirements of agricultural practice, by Robert Scott Burn (Lockwood & Co.).

A few Year-books and Almanacs have still to be announced: namely, *Thom's Irish Almanac and Official Directory* (Dublin, Thom),—*The Brown Book: a Book of Ready Reference* (Saunders, Otley & Co.),—*The Railway, Banking, Mining, Insurance and Commercial Almanac*, edited by W. P. Smith (Railway Record),—*The Canadian Almanac* (Low),—*The London Diocesan Calendar and Clergy List* (Parker),—and *The Cricket Chronicle for the Season 1863: a Record, with Full Scores, of Matches played in 1863*, by Capt. W. Bayly (Baily & Co.).

The following miscellanies may be passed on to the readers whom they interest: *The Pettes Endowment* (Blackwood & Sons),—*Homœopathic Infinitesimal Doses and their Analogues in Nature*, by Dr. Ryan (Turner),—*The Russian Ball; or, the Adventures of Miss Clementina Shoddy: a Humorous Description in Verse*, by a New York Editor (New York, Carleton),—*Recollections of Edward Capern*, by W. Ormond (Bristol, Mack),—and *Universal Emancipation: a Miscellaneous Collection of Poetry, with or without Music* (Tresidder).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Across the River, 19 Views of Heaven, by M. Leod, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Arnold's Biblical Criticism, Pentateuch, Vol. 1, 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Bacon's Essays, ed. by Whately, 4th edit. 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Beeton's Book of Anecdotes, Wit and Humour, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Bell & Daldy's Pocket Volumes, Walton's Life of Donne, &c., 3s.
Bell's Empire in India, Letters from Madras, post 8vo. 8s. 6d.
Bertrand du Guesclin, Life and Times of, by Jamison, 2 vols. 21s.
British Pharmacopœia, 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Brough's Mrs. M. M. Emerson, 2 vols. post 8vo. 15s. 6d.
Brown's Mosiac Cosmogony, 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Buckmaster's Elements of Mechanical Physics, 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Cæsar's Commentaries, Books 1-5, by Ishister, 2nd edit. 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Charlton Manor, a Temperance Tale, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Cooper's Ned Meyers, new edit. 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Cottage Compendary, Gospel of St. Luke, royal 16mo. 2s. 6d.
Dun to Beersheba, or Northern and Southern Friends, 10s. 6d.
Dana's Text-Book of Geology, 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Daniel's Miriam's Sorrow, 2 vols. 8vo. 21s. 6d.
Dehret's Illustrated Peasage and Exronetage, 1864, 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Derrick's Kiddle-Wink, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Do It with Thy Might, or Our Work in the World, 16mo. 1s. 6d.
Dyce's Bella Donna, or Cross before the Name, 2 vols. 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Handbook of the Court, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Henley's Saintliness, Sermons on the Beatitudes, 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Hunt's Yachting Magazine, Vol. 1863, 8vo. 14s. 6d.
Illustrated News, Vol. 48, folio, 12s. 6d.
Ingfield's Advice to Young Naval Officers, 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Irving's (Edward) Collected Works, 5 vols. Vol. 1, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
James's Castle of Ebonstein, new edit. 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Journal of British Archaeological Society, Vol. 19, 8vo. 3s. 6d.
London and Provincial Medical Directory, 1864, 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Mackenzie (Bishop), Memoir of, by Harry Goodwin, 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Mann's Sketches from Irish Highlands, 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Marjoram's Memorials, by White, 4th edit. small 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Marshall's Consideration, or How we can help one another, 1s. 6d.
Meadow's Heads of the People, 2 vols. 8vo. 14s. 6d.
Miles's Remarks on Stables and Stable Fittings, 2nd edit. 12s. 6d.
Mischief Maker and Peace Maker, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Mitchell's Insane in Private Dwellings, 8vo. 4s. 6d.

Montagu's Four Experiments on Church and State, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
Ned Leod's The Arabian and the Chercher Edit. cr. 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Nicholson's Bible Companion, 32mo. 1s. 6d.
Nicholson's Garland of Sacred Poetry, 12mo. 2s. 6d. 8t.
Nichols's Forty Years of American Life, 2 vols. 8vo. 32s. 6d.
Old Helmet, by Author of "Wide, Wide World," 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Old Helmet, by Author of "Wide, Wide World" (Routledge, 2s. 6d.).
Passages in the Life of an Old Maid, by J. C. K., post 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Pistol's Letters, with Prolegomena and Notes, by Valetta, 3d. 6d.
Priest's (The) Prayer Book, edited by Two Clergymen, 12mo. 4s. 6d.
Prize Papers, written for "The Boy's Own Magazine," 8vo. 3s. 6d.
Punch, Re-issue, Vol. 48, 4s. 6d.
Reid's Praise of Jesus, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Rorke's Fancies of the Photographs, a Poem, 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Sandie's Horeh and Jerusalem, illustrated, 8vo. 10s. 6d.
Schmidt's Le Jeune Henri, Eug. Voché, by Matthay, 12mo. 5s. 6d.
Scott's Poetical Works (2 vols.), Vol. 1, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Shakespeare (Life Portraits of) by Hain Friswell, Photographs, 21s.
Shakespeare, 1st Folio, 1622, in Photo-Lith. (16 parts), Part 1, 10s. 6d.
Shakespeare and Jonson, Dramatic versus Wit Combat, post 8vo. 4s.
Simple Lessons, or Words Easy to be Understood, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Skinner's Twenty-One Heads of Christian Duty, 12mo. 1s. 6d. swd.
Some Glimpses into Life in the Far East, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
Southgate's Many Thoughts, new edit. 8s. 12s. 6d. 8t.
Stanley's Sermon, A Reasonable, Holy and Living Sacrifice, 1s. 6d.
Taylor's Geological Essays on Edinburgh, 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Tidwell's Innkeeper's Legal Guide, 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Truman's Effie Campbell, and other Poems, 8vo. 3s. 6d.
War-Office List and Civil Directory, Jan. 1864, 8vo. 4s. 6d.
Wharton's Heart or Head, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21s. 6d.
Whately's Elements of Logic, new edit. cr. 8vo. 4s. 6d.
Whiston's Elements of International Law, 2nd edit. roy. 8vo. 35s.
Wilson's Works, Vols. 3 & 4, Essays on Sanscrit Lit., Vols. 1 & 2, 24s.
Wright (Thomas), Autobiography of, 8vo. 5s. 6d.
Young Artist's Life, 8vo. 10s. 6d.

THE SOURCES OF THE NILE.

Hackney, Jan. 26, 1864.

Capt. Speke seems not to perceive that, by asserting, as he does in his letter in the *Athenæum* of the 23rd instant, that I am "only one in a multitude who thought the source of the Nile lay west of Zanzibar," he invalidates his own claim to singularity and originality, on which he has hitherto prided himself so much. But, though he may be willing to abandon his claim, I am not so ready to give up mine; and therefore I call on him to point out the "multitude" who in 1846 thought, with me, that the Sources of the Nile lay west of Zanzibar and were to be reached by penetrating inland in that direction. I must object, however, to his referring to any "Hindu" authorities, like those relied on by poor Lieut. Wilford in his paper "On Egypt and the River Nile," on which so much stress is laid in Capt. Speke's *Journal*. The true character of that "most interesting paper" has already been alluded to by Mr. Cooley in the *Athenæum* of the 9th instant; but should Capt. Speke require further enlightenment on the subject, he would do well to refer to the article "Wilford" in the *Penny Cyclopædia*.

Capt. Speke is quite mistaken in supposing me to have assumed to myself the direction of the expedition of 1856. At that time I was resident in Mauritius; so that it was not possible for me to have anything to do with it. But could I have interfered, I should certainly have objected to the directions given, as being most unsuitable; in the same way as I did in the lecture which I delivered at the London Institution last Wednesday evening, when I contrasted them with those which I had drawn up eight years previously to 1856, and which, after the lapse of eight years more, I have now reproduced, without the alteration of a single letter, for the purpose of being acted on. For, as the objects contemplated in my plan of exploration of 1848, have been only partially accomplished by the two expeditions of 1856 and 1860, I now propose, if properly supported, to undertake in person a third expedition, for the final determination of the Sources of the Nile, by penetrating inland from the east coast of Africa near Zanzibar, as I originally suggested in 1846.

With respect to the vexed question of one or two lakes, I have to state that, as long ago as the year 1849, on a careful examination of the missionaries' journals, the late Chevalier Bunsen and myself were of opinion that the Nyamwezi Lake and Nyassa do not join one another; which opinion was confirmed by Capt. Mohammed bin Khamis in 1856, as already explained in the *Athenæum* of the 2nd instant.

Such being the case, I do not understand Capt. Speke's present assertion respecting Capt. Mohammed bin Khamis. His words are, he "told me he knew nothing about the interior of Africa more than what he heard from the Arab traders, and they, as we (Burton and Speke) afterwards found, thought all the lakes joined one another, until I (Speke) argued them out of it."

I am at a loss to reconcile this with the statement of Mohammed bin Khamis himself, and like-

wise with that of Capt. Burton. The former, besides positively assuring me that the lakes are distinct and separate, added that "the roads to the two lakes are likewise quite distinct, and in different directions; that to the Nyassa Lake starting from Kilwa (Quilwa) and proceeding to the southward of west, and that to the Nyamwezi Lake leading either from Buromayi or from the mouth of the river Pangani in a direction to the north of west."

Capt. Burton's statement is that on his arrival at Zanzibar, accompanied by Capt. Speke, he "heard sufficient to convince him that the Nyassa or Kilwa Lake is of unimportant dimensions, and altogether distinct from the Sea of Ujiji;" and that "though these two waters had been run into one by European geographers, no Arab at Zanzibar ever yet confounded them. This consideration (he adds) mainly determined my entrance into Africa by the great western line of road leading through Unyamwezi."

The information furnished to me by Capt. Mohammed bin Khamis was published in the *Athenæum* of July 12, 1856, and in the *Church Missionary Intelligencer* of August 1st, of the same year; and as this was several months before Capt. Speke left England for Zanzibar, it is manifest that my informant, at least, did not require to be argued out of the opinion that all the lakes join one another. Capt. Burton's statement was published in the *Journal of the Royal Geographical Society* for 1859 (vol. xxix. p. 14); and as it is quite in accordance with that of Mohammed bin Khamis, it is incomprehensible that Capt. Burton should have "feared to go on that line (from Kilwa), and instead took the one leading (through Unyamwezi) to Ujiji in preference, for safety's sake." This is, however, a point which Capt. Burton himself will, no doubt, be able to explain on his arrival in England, which I am told is shortly expected.

CHARLES BEKE.

AN ARCHITECT'S GRIEVANCE.

1, Old Palace Yard, Jan. 22, 1864.

NEARLY three years ago the Board of the Royal Hospital for Incurables applied to some half-dozen architects, and myself, to send them designs, in competition, for their new hospital to be erected near Reigate. Their letter of invitation informed me that the building would be in accordance with instructions furnished, which stated, among other things, that the Board contemplated an expenditure of about 30,000l. After informing the Board that the prizes (73l. 10s. and 31l. 10s.) were no inducement whatever to me to compete, and eliciting from them in reply a distinct assurance that it was their intention to employ the successful competitor in the erection of the building, I consented on this condition alone, and little suspecting the real state of the case, to send in designs, which, with those of the other competitors, were reported upon by Mr. Bellamy, and, on the 19th of December, 1861, I was informed that the first prize had been awarded to me, and that the drawings were on view to subscribers and others. Since that time, though the Board have retained my designs and even applied to me for a perspective view of the building, I have received no communication from them, except in reply to letters addressed to them, and it now appears that they have never possessed the 30,000l. named in their instructions as their contemplated expenditure, nor do they appear to have ever had any definite prospect of being able to build their new hospital.

Having recently seen by advertisements that the Board have purchased an old building, and have accepted plans for its alteration, without any communication with me, I inquired whether they had abandoned the idea of erecting a new hospital from my designs, but have not been able to get any satisfactory reply to this reasonable question.

Architects are, unfortunately, not unaccustomed to want of courtesy and fair dealing in open competitions, but I think the competitors in this case had a right to expect that the Board of a respectable and useful charity, with such a man as Mr. Henry Huth as its treasurer, would not have sought to obtain from professional men, by a promise of

something which it was out of their power to give, designs for a building for the erection of which they were fully aware no funds were available. I am, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWARD M. BARRY.

SHAKSPEARE IN ITALY.

Genoa, Jan. 21, 1864.

THE best tragic actor in Italy, Tommaso Salvini, is now giving a series of performances at the Paganini Theatre here, and last Tuesday, for his benefit, played his most celebrated part, *Othello*, in an Italian version of our Shakspeare's 'Othello.'

To one who has the privilege of remembering Edmund Kean in this finest of all acting tragedies, it was especially interesting to see how an Italian tragedian would render the character, and to observe the effect it would produce upon an Italian public. The Genoese are by no means an enthusiastic audience; indeed, generally speaking, they are a cold, undemonstrative, and even a hard audience. But they are a respectful audience; they listen silently, and very attentively. With the inherent quality of Italian natures, they are sedate in judgment, and possess a strong principle of respect for things good and great. They know that the English Shakspeare is supremely good and great, and they attend a representation of one of his plays with the conviction that these are worthy of all reverence, even though on a first hearing they may not convey their full beauty to their Italian hearers. It was thus, silently, attentively, respectfully,—that, a few months since, the Genoese sat through a performance of Shakspeare's 'Macbeth,' the part of *Lady Macbeth* played by Italy's greatest tragic actress, Adelaïda Ristori. To even their greatest public favourites the Genoese are sparing of applause.

It was with the same quiet respect that they heard the first two acts of 'Othello' the other night; but the large company assembled, the overflowing crammed theatre, bore testimony to their being prepared to witness something very good. The first effect upon the audience was perceptible in the subdued thrill of approval that ran through the house at the words which, in the English original, run—

Keep up your bright swords, for the dew will rust them, which were delivered with a smiling grace and dignity that well befitted the sentence, and bespoke the manner that marked Salvini's deportment throughout the first portion of the play. It was simple, quietly dignified, manly, forbearing; nay, it was even deferential, when, before the Duke and assembled Senate, he made his speech of explanation and self-defence. Low-toned, though round and full, his voice never rose into declamatory loudness; but remained natural, unforced, and self-contained. Perhaps there was thought to be too little force thrown into the phrase by Salvini, by those who recollected the intensity of earnest trust and tenderness with which Kean uttered those few monosyllables—"My life upon her faith!" but altogether it was in this, the expression of his love, that the Italian tragedian least excelled. It was the conscious worth, the quiet self-assertion, the manly dignity at first, with the Oriental fire, the stung honour, the tortured spirit, at last, that Salvini so finely embodied.

His noble person and handsome features shone conspicuously in the Moorish attire; and the majestic step and bearing which distinguish him, were peculiarly visible when he wore the suit of mail in which he arrives at Cyprus. A good piece of contrast was afforded by the way in which he began the celebrated third act,—calm, quietly seated at his writing-table, bare-headed—the hair crisply curled and set close about his dark face and throat, looking like a Titian picture—listening to the first few dropped words of Iago's subtle venom,—all this gave the greater force to the subsequent outburst of passion, the gusts and torrents of wrath, with which he assails the poisoner of his peace. The way in which he sprang upon his tormentor, with fire-darting eyes, dilated nostril, quivering lip, and mouth agape with passion, was like some Eastern animal leaping from his jungle to destroy. Hurling him to the ground,

setting his foot one moment on his prostrate foe, then turning to bury his face in his hands, as if in horror at his want of self-command, was a really fine Orientalism, and, in a measure, warranted this extreme rendering of the violence with which Othello turns upon Iago. But Salvini has a way of broadly filling the stage, and occupying it by large and wide circles of motion, that admirably accord with the restlessness of jealousy and perturbed feeling. In the scene, for instance, where Othello overwhelms his kneeling wife with reproaches, Salvini turned from her, writhing, and went towards the farthest depths of the stage, where, with his back to the audience, he sobbed forth the chief part of that bitter lamentation speech—

Had it pleas'd Heaven
To try me with affliction; had he rain'd
All kinds of sores and shames on my bare head;
Steep'd me in poverty to the very lips;
Given to captivity me and my utmost hopes;
I should have found in some part of my soul
A drop of patience; but, alas! &c.

Then, again, in the last scene, where he is about to murder her (the Italian version making Desdemona come forward from the curtained alcove where her bed is supposed to be, instead of speaking from the bed itself, as in the original), Salvini strode round and round the room, as though enclosing her within his coils, and gradually gathering resolution to tighten them about her, and finally stifle out her life. The mode in which he at last seizes her, clasp her head within his arms, and smothering it against his breast, as if he would hide her beauty from his sight, lest it should disarm him, and then hurrying her to her death, was wonderfully in keeping with the wild, impetuous Moorish nature, fulfilling the supposed act of justice. Alkin to this, was the tiger look and attitude with which—still on his knee, where he had thrown himself beside his murdered Desdemona—he turns to glare upon Iago, on hearing him convicted as the cause of all. It brought down the unanimous plaudits of the house; and, indeed, from the close of the grand third act to the end of the play, the audience were warmed into a demonstration rarely witnessed in Genoa.

It was a fine tribute to the tragedian of whom Italy is so proud; and it was a glorious privilege for an Englishwoman to witness this unequivocal homage to the dramatic genius of one whose noble productions are so true to universal human nature that, even through the disadvantage of a translated version, they go straight to the hearts of men, and speak home truths to all.

M. C. C.

Y* COMICAL RHYMES.

Brompton Square, Jan. 20, 1864.

* THE *Athenæum* being, as it were, the Literary Court of Conscience to which writers are accustomed to appeal against the misconduct of publishers, I venture to ask leave to enter my plaint on the record. Although the work out of which my grievance arises is one of a trivial character, yet, as the principle involved is of importance to all writers, and as the publisher's offence is really flagrant, I hope to be allowed to state the particulars of the case. In the summer of 1862, I wrote a child's book, which consisted of a budget of rhymes on various topics, and to each I sketched a design, which was meant to be as grotesque as the verses it was intended to illustrate. It was part of my plan that the drawings, when engraved on wood, as well as the text, should be printed in an admixture of red and black after the manner of a German book which I had seen some years before, and thought very effective. Since the publication of my book this mode of printing has been extensively employed. I sold the work to Mr. Dean, of Ludgate Hill, for a mere trifle; but I stipulated that my initials should appear in the title-page, and on each woodcut, and that the book should be printed in red and black, as before mentioned. When the work was published, I found that my drawing for the title-page, and my title "Small jokes for small folks, or new verses for old nurses," were superseded by another drawing, and these lines:—"Y* Comical Rhymes of Ancient Times, dug up into jokes for small folks," the point of

which I acknowledge myself unable to perceive. After taking this liberty my publisher coolly added that the work was by C. H. R. (my initials). Next, I found that instead of putting my initials to each of the woodcuts, they did not appear on one. Thirdly, I perceived that the rhymes to my first picture were so cut and carved about, with new lines interpolated, that I was unable to recognize my own work. Fourthly, my publisher altogether omitted two of my drawings, with the accompanying rhymes, substituting for one of them a drawing and rhymes of his own, for which I was made responsible by the title-page. In one case I had described a little girl (the eleventh picture) in the enjoyment of the good things of life, and, with a view of raising in the young mind emotions of pity, by showing it what "wretches feel," I had drawn immediately after this picture another of a poor little girl, and told her tale in suitable rhyme. What do you suppose was the reason which the publisher gave for the omission of this subject, when I remonstrated with him about this and his other misdeeds? He thought it improper, he said, that anything referring to a poor and ragged child should appear in a book that was to go into the hands of "genteel children"! The excuse which he offered for not placing my initials on the woodcuts was, that "it was an oversight." This oversight, however, has not been remedied in any of the subsequent editions. Under these, to a young writer, vexatious circumstances, I derived some satisfaction from finding my anticipations of the success of the work more than fulfilled. It succeeded at once, and I am informed that its popularity is as great in India and our colonies as it is at home. The satisfaction which the publisher derives from the same circumstance is of a more substantial character. Well, I brought myself to forgive my publisher all his offences, and had actually intended to furnish him with another book for this Christmas, could I have spared time for the purpose. He, however, proves to be incorrigible. On looking into a bookseller's window a few days since, I perceived that my unfortunate book had undergone fresh mutilations. I bought the copy, which professes to be the fifth edition, and which I take the liberty of enclosing, together with one of the first edition. If you will do me the favour to refer to the fifth picture of the first edition, you will see that the first rhyme runs thus:—

There was an old woman as ugly as sin
Who lived upon Lucifer matches and gin.

The mention of gin seems to have shocked the censor of juvenile literature on Ludgate Hill. Gin was as little suited to the ears polite of "genteel children" as the allusion to rags and poverty, and, therefore, the following rhyme has been substituted for mine:—

An old woman as ugly as could be
Lived upon matches and very strong tea,

and, at the end, two new milk-and-water lines—they have not the strength even of tea—are added, which I would rather not be supposed to have written, but which are thus remorselessly fathered upon me. I also find that the rhymes to my eleventh picture have been altered, and I humbly venture to think, spoil, on the same *Master Goodchild* principle which has suggested the other liberties that have been taken with my drawings and text. After this plain narrative I will not apply any harsh language to my publisher's conduct; but I cannot help thinking, and in this, perhaps, many will be disposed to concur, that it is rather "too bad."

CHARLES H. ROSS.

GOSSIP FROM ROME.

Rome, Jan. 1864.

THE *Eternal City* is full of the representatives of nations; our countrymen, however, greatly outnumbering all others. The great augmentation in the price of all articles does not appear to have had any effect in stemming the current of English setting south. It may not be out of place, however, to warn your readers who may think of "doing" Rome this coming Easter, that they must come prepared to pay fully as much for apartments and living as they would have to pay

in Paris. The great rise in the price of meat is attributed to a terrible disease that has raged among cattle, killing many thousands around Rome. The labour market is influenced by this rise in prices. Each Sunday morning the Piazza Montanara is filled with picturesque groups of men from the Campagna, with goat-skin breeches, who come into Rome to be hired as labourers. Three years ago the average daily pay of these men was two and a half pauls. Now they receive four pauls. I wish I could add that this rise in wages went hand in hand with the amelioration of Rome generally. The iron horse, it is true, snorts at two of the city gates, and a few of the leading thoroughfares are lighted with gas, but the streets generally are as dirty as ever, and the people are squalid and wretched. According to my landlord, who is an Italian, your life is not safe after dark. A few days after having taken up my abode in his house, he brought me a sword-cane, entreating me not to go out at night without it. Not in the streets, however, are you in danger, but on the staircases, which, after nightfall, are for the most part dark. On these you may, as happened to a gentleman the other night, find a fellow waiting to relieve you of your watch.

The newest Rome gossip is the excitement caused by Mr. Home, of spirit-medium celebrity, who, having settled down to sculpture, was ordered to leave Rome by the Papal Government. The ministers in power, having read his book of spirit-marvels, did not like the author. But Mr. Home has friends here,—so intercession was made, the order was reversed, and Mr. Home considered himself free to remain among us, having, like a good boy, promised not to disturb the dead in the Eternal City. Some persons, however, got alarmed. Some with whom I conversed declared they had heard that Mr. Home purposed making a figure which should live and move; and others considered that he had already worked black deeds sufficient to entitle him to be handed over to the Inquisition, which, you are aware, still exists here. The result of this agitation has been a second order, commanding Mr. Home to leave Rome immediately, and he has shaken the dust of the city from his feet. All his expenses will be paid by the government.

The excavations in the Palace of the Cæsars continue, but the progress is very slow. No greater contrast can indeed be conceived, than the working of the dozen feeble Italians labouring there, and what may be seen daily in England when stalwart "navvies" are excavating for railway works. Still, discoveries of marbles, sculptured, and bearing fragments of inscriptions, are daily made, not lately of any great importance, but sufficient to confirm the belief that the whole of the vast mass known as the Palace of the Cæsars was covered by structures. Nothing thoroughly effective will, however, be accomplished until the large nunnery known formerly as the Villa Palatina, is removed; but this good work is not likely to be accomplished at present.

The excavations beneath San Clemente are also progressing, and there is now no doubt that the underground church was much larger than the present more modern edifice. But nothing has yet been discovered to throw light on the circumstances connected with the burial, as it may be called, of the subterranean church, probably the earliest Christian basilica in Rome. The latest frescoes discovered represent the body of St. Cyril borne by four men to his grave in San Clemente. The saint is represented with the episcopal insignia richly gemmed, and nimbus-crowned. On one side is a group of bishops, on the other the Pope blessing the assemblage. Another fresco represents a procession leaving Cerson, the ancient Cherson; in the foreground are a sea, an anchor, and a small temple. This painting, which is remarkable for its freshness and brightness, is believed to be the discovery of the body of San Clemente. To those not versed in Church history, we may state that St. Clement was cast into the sea, and, according to the legend, when his followers sorrowed at not being able to recover his body, the sea receded some miles, and the body was found lying enshrined in a temple. The Irish

Dominicans, to whom the church and convent of San Clemente belong, are delighted by the discovery of this fresco.

Researches are going on in some of the Catacombs, and Cav. de Rossi is progressing with his 'Roma Sotterranea'—a work which will assuredly immortalize the author. It is greatly to be lamented that the Instituto Archeologico, founded by the late King of Prussia, which numbers among its members zealous antiquaries, and whose Secretary, Dr. Henzen, is a gentleman of great learning, cannot, by its laws of incorporation, apply its funds to researches in the Catacombs, where so much good work remains to be accomplished. For there is now very little doubt that the galleries, containing the sepulchral chambers of the early Christians, extend around Rome to a length probably exceeding six hundred miles, by far the greatest portion of which remains to be explored. We cannot, therefore, but regret that so eminent a body as the Instituto Archeologico of Rome should have deemed it prudent to frame laws which bar it from meddling with Christian archeology. But, as Dr. Henzen stated to me, the Institution would probably soon get into hot water if it laboured on Christian antiquities, and thus they confine their researches to Pagan times.

The Accademia de' Lincei, the oldest scientific body in Europe, continue to meet on the first Sunday in each month, from November to May, in the upper part of the Capitol. The entrance-hall is adorned by the figure of a large lynx, typical of the Society, which is supposed to be very watchful. Galileo was one of its founders, and, at the last meeting of the Society which I attended, a very interesting autograph of that philosopher, written in the rooms of the Academy, and having reference to its constitution, was presented to the Academy by the Prince Boncompagni, who has done much for science in Italy. At this meeting, Monsignor Nardi read a paper on the recent Nile discoveries, illustrated by maps, which, although not equal to those exhibited by our Royal Geographical Society, were instructive.

The coming Carnival promises to be a sorry affair. No masks will be allowed, and consequently there will be little fun. However, the official programme for the Carnival is on the walls, and, among other amusements, the usual horse-races on the Corso will take place daily. Meanwhile, the Apollo is giving operas, limited hitherto to 'Il Trovatore' and 'Un Ballo in Maschera,' with a really good ballet, entitled 'Christoforo Colombo,' in which a *danseuse* performs feats which would win applause from the occupants of the omnibus box at Her Majesty's Theatre.

Balls and parties are of nightly occurrence among the English, who have established a miniature May Fair around the Piazza di Spagna, and English influence has prevailed upon the Pope to allow hunting to be revived, which he had put down. Your Leicestershire fox-hunter would, however, scorn the sport, for the foxes, though numerous, rarely run, preferring wisely to hide themselves in the numerous holes in the Campagna.

The Propaganda has held its annual meeting this week, for the display of languages. Thirty-three students held forth in various tongues—and many gave specimens of native music. The exhibition was extremely interesting, and highly creditable to the College. C. R. W.

RAILWAY LONDON.

To the remarks on Mr. Stanford's map of the proposed metropolitan railways, which recently appeared in the *Athenæum*, we wish to add a protest against the reception of the idea that London is really to be given over as a spoil to contending railway companies. The current tone of discussion on the subject tends to the conclusion that the only choice left for the inhabitants of these metropolitan cities is to be made between one or other of the schemes, or sets of schemes. How greatly to the advantage of the railway interest it is that this idea should be accepted, tacitly if not distinctly,

we need not point out. Once this is adopted as a principle, victory for the companies is half obtained. The mere act of discussing the subject infects men's minds; the disposing of millions, even in imagination, is so exciting, and the use of half-understood technical terms so captivating, that a man who indulges in these things is pretty sure to become a partisan rather than a judge. We are not, it would appear, invited to decide whether we will have any particular "improvement" effected at all, or, if so, in what manner, but it is put to us, in effect, to say, "Under which king, Bezonian?" and to avow a predilection either for the engineer who spoiled London Bridge and shut up St. Saviour's Church in a pit, for him who ruined Ludgate Hill, or for a third who desires to burrow under our houses. We submit that the ground on which the public stand is not so narrow.

It is true that the necessity for metropolitan railway communication has been acknowledged, and that the success of the Underground Railway has led a speculative portion of the public into the toils of parliamentary agents and engineers; but it does not follow from those facts that our main thoroughfares are to be cut up in the fashion indicated in the map before us. To aver that we must and shall be thus "improved" and provided with "communications," is a daring as well as an ingenious way of begging the question. It will be observed that one of the strongest appeals for favour to several of these ambitious schemes, is made on account of the alleged existence of a necessity to afford what is called "through-communication" between the north and north-west of this island and its south-eastern angle and the continent of Europe. It is an important matter with regard to this necessity, that it is already recognized, and amply provided for by three railways. 1. The West London Junction Railway, crossing the river at Cremorne; 2. The Reading, Guildford and Reigate branch of the South-Eastern Railway Company's line, which was originally destined for the purpose in question; 3. The Junction soon to be completed at Blackfriars. Communication between the points indicated above is supplied, in addition to that of the Metropolitan lines, by the railways which lead to Southampton and to Harwich.

We rejoice to learn already that some of the most ambitious schemes for accommodating London with railways will not make their appearance before the Committees of Parliament. But enough remain to tax the judgment of the Railway Committees of the Legislature, to fill the pockets of parliamentary agents and engineers, and go a good way towards emptying the purses of parties who are put to the cost and pains of opposition. The greater number will inevitably be opposed with all the power of those interested and threatened.

Is it not a deplorable state of things that the interests, often of the most narrow kind, of two parties—themselves in but a slight degree guided by what is called public policy,—should be the sole guides offered to the Legislature, whereby a decision on so vital a point as that in question must be come to? No one ever thought of having the London Main Drainage submitted to the clash of speculative companies, heightened by the desperation of owners of property, by way of ascertaining what was the best plan for carrying out the drainage of this vast metropolis. Why, then, has it got to be understood that the only function of the law-makers is to sit by and see the battle fought between counsel on either side—those employed by the railways and the representatives of invaded owners? In such opposition lies the only chance for the owners, and we counsel persons interested not to trust to others to do the work of contention. Such sleepy policy allowed Ludgate Hill to be defaced, although the scheme for doing so had been opposed on an early occasion.

We have the experience of nearly thirty years to guide us in making provincial railways; if it has any significance at all it clearly declares the evils of allowing the present system to continue. There is not a single great company which has not, at an enormous cost, modified, and many of them have almost re-made their original lines. Does it seem reasonable that the old course

should be persisted in, despite this experience and this waste? Why cannot some authoritative plan, well considered by a council of the most eminent engineers in the country, be sanctioned—there would be no want of bidders for the execution of such a thing—whereby metropolitan railway communication could be effected? To submit the fate of the metropolis to the scramble which is to be expected is very unwise. Even in some of the schemes that have already met an untimely fate there may have been valuable points and suggestions of importance.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE Macaulay memorial for Trinity College, Cambridge, is nearly finished by Mr. Woolner. The historian is seated in his college gown, with a book in his hand—the fingers pressed into the open leaves, as if he had been collecting points in an argument. The attitude is graceful, and the face noble. It has not, we believe, been settled where this memorial shall stand—some would prefer to see it in Trinity Chapel, others in the Library, the floor of which would have to be strengthened by supports in order to bear the great weight of marble.

On Monday morning the public mind was shocked by an announcement in some of the daily papers that Dr. Livingstone had been killed. We are happy to think there is reason for hoping that this news was untrue—an opinion which is supported by the great authority of Sir Roderick Murchison. The facts, so far as they are known, may be stated in a few words. Dr. Livingstone was about to embark for England, having fulfilled his African mission, and earned his share of rest. But, urged by his zeal for geographical discovery, he resolved, before quitting Africa, to pay a visit to Lake Nyassa, and try to discover the source of the Shira; for which purpose he started with a party of five Makololo men. Their landing on the coast appears to have been opposed by the natives, who are known to have an unfriendly feeling towards the Makololo. In the attempt to land Dr. Livingstone is said to have been wounded in the foot, and his companions to have been killed. A subsequent despatch spoke of a massacre of the whole party; but this is probably an exaggerated version of the first report.

The Council of the Royal Horticultural Society offer the following prizes for the encouragement of the study of Scientific Botany amongst all classes:—1. One silver and two bronze medals, for the three best collections of wild plants of each separate county of the United Kingdom, dried, mounted on paper, folio demy size, classified according to the natural system, and labelled with the name of the locality where found, and the date when found. Intending competitors may obtain the forms of labels on sending twelve postage-stamps to the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, South Kensington. 2. Three gold medals will be given for the three best of all the collections out of all the several county collections. Not more than one of the medals can be awarded in one county. The collections must be delivered on or before the 31st of December, 1864. A gold medal will also be awarded to every exhibitor of a new species of plant found growing in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Arthur Sketcheley's forthcoming entertainment will have the advantage of pictorial illustration. The principal artist engaged is Mr. Matthew Morgan. It is understood that the picture will consist of a moving panorama, in six tableaux.

On Monday last, the Vice Presidents of the Shakespeare Committee held a meeting on the call of a learned and popular archbishop. The object was to consider the measures which ought to be taken in the face of an evident conflict of opinion as to what would constitute the most appropriate monument to Shakespeare. Steps were taken for calling together, on February the 5th, the day next after Parliament assembles, a joint meeting of the Site and Monument Committees, which committees include some of the most eminent and active of the subscribers. The deliberations of this body will, doubtless, bring the question of how to give due

effect to the wishes of the members into a practicable shape.

M. Victor Hugo and his son M. François Hugo—the eminent critic and translator of Shakespeare's Plays—have joined the National Shakespeare Committee.

At length we seem to have a chance of obtaining a satisfactory reproduction of the first folio of Shakespeare. Mr. Howard Staunton has prepared, and Messrs. Day & Son have published, the first Part of a reproduction in photo-lithography, which comes very near to all that a Shakspearian critic could desire. The process adopted is that of the Ordnance Survey Office, and brought to a high degree of perfection by Sir Henry James—the process employed in 'The Domesday Book.' In Mr. Staunton's reproduction of the first folio, the paper is good, having been manufactured for the purpose of this edition. The appearance of the page, if less sharp and defined than in the original, is not unpleasant to the eye: it will be well for the lithographer to guard, as far as may be done by care and skill, against the tendency of this process to produce blots and specks. But the grand condition of a certain text—a trustworthy reproduction of the original—is here obtained. All other things are of less importance. A critic can use this work with undoubting faith in its literal accuracy, untroubled by his recollection of the three hundred and sixty blunders which were found by Upcott in the reprint of 1807. The reproduction is not made from a single copy, but from the best pages of the two best copies of the folio known—the one in Bridgwater House, the other in the British Museum. So far, we can warmly congratulate Mr. Staunton and Messrs. Day & Son on their success.

Mrs. S. C. Hall is about to commence a periodical for girls, with the assistance of writers and artists who have already won favour for the young. Boys have many caterers for their amusement and instruction. Ladies also have their magazines and newspapers, but the field of special labour for the benefit of girls is still invitingly open.

Mr. Thompson wishes to add to our explanation of his system of short-hand, that the vowel is noted in the current writing, not, as in the phonetic and in nearly every other method, by independent dots and marks. In the usual short-hand, the vowels are omitted altogether, for the sake of rapid writing. No doubt, such a plan must sometimes lead to error when the reporter's notes come to be transcribed; but this abbreviated manner of writing is, in fact, short-hand. When the vowels are inserted, the system is no longer short-hand, but long-hand with a new set of characters.

On Wednesday, last week, Dr. Beke delivered a lecture 'On the Sources of the Nile, and on the Means requisite for their Final Determination,' at the London Institution; in the course of which he described the mountains forming the eastern side of the basin of the Nile, which he compared, in a general way, to the western Ghauts of India and the Cordilleras of the Andes, but gradually sinking towards the west; the rivers all falling into the Nile, which skirts the extreme western edge of the hill country, and forms a succession of swamps or lakes rather than the channel of a running stream. He then explained his theory of the Mountains of the Moon, the first knowledge of which he regards as being derived from the Egyptian geographer, Claudius Ptolemy; and he referred to a statement of the Arabian historian, Masudi, who flourished in the tenth century of our era, that "he saw in the *Nighra* (Geographia) of Ptolemy a drawing of the Nile, as it came forth from the Mountains of the Moon, rising from twelve sources." After alluding to the discovery of the snowy mountains Kilimanjaro and Kenia by the Church Missionaries at Mombas, and their report of a long slug-shaped lake, extending from the Equator to 12° S. lat., which led to the expedition of Capt. Burton and Speke in 1856, Dr. Beke gave a summary of the results of that expedition, and of the second one from which Capt. Speke and Grant have just returned. On the former journey, the two lakes Tanganyika and Nyanza were visited, and the southernmost limits of the basin of the Nile deter-

mined, almost identically as Dr. Beke had delineated them in his 'Map of the Basin of the Nile,' published in 1849. But Capt. Burton had failed to ascertain from personal observation whether Tanganyika has any outlet, and if so in what direction. On the second expedition, Capt. Speke and Grant had rendered it certain that the Nyanza joins the Nile, though they had not absolutely connected it with the river flowing past Gondokoro, there being 200 miles of the river's course not followed down by them. They had also omitted to explore the eastern side of the lake, next the snowy Alps of Africa, in which the sources of the Nile are to be found; as the sources of the Rhone, which river runs into and through the Lake of Geneva, are found in the Alps of Switzerland. Dr. Beke then announced that, his plan of exploration of 1848 having been only partially carried out by the expeditions of 1856 and 1860, he had decided on completing its accomplishment by undertaking an expedition in person; and for this purpose he proposed to open a public subscription. In conclusion, he showed the advantages likely to result from the throwing open of Eastern Inter-tropical Africa to British commerce, and he particularly alluded to the auriferous character of the mountain range of Eastern Africa, which is a meridional metalliferous Cordillera, like those of America and Australia.

At a sale of printed books on Wednesday last week, by Messrs. Sotheby & Co., some very high prices were obtained. One work, Halstead's Genealogies of the Noble Houses of Alno, Eroc, Latimer, Drayton, Mauduit, Mordaunt, &c., a single folio volume printed in 1685 by the Earl of Peterborough, brought the enormous sum of 185*l.*, the highest price ever yet given for a copy—Dent's having sold for 32*l.* 11*s.*, Sir S. Taylor's for 52*l.* 10*s.*, Townley's for 63*l.*, Sir Mark Sykes's for 74*l.* 11*s.*, and Lord Berwick's for 98*l.* The name of Halstead is fictitious, the real author, who adopted that pseudonym, being Henry, second Earl of Peterborough, having the assistance of the Rev. Mr. Rams, Rector of Turvey, his chaplain. As a sample of other prices we quote the following: Forduni Scotichronicon, edente T. Hearne, 5 vols. large paper, 9*l.*—Colnett's Whaling Voyage round Cape Horn into the Pacific Ocean, original manuscript, 10*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Hon. C. Grimston's History of Gorbunbury, 4*l.*—Butken's Trophées du Dûché de Brabant, 5 vols., 10*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*—Buck's Views, 4 vols., not complete, 17*l.* 5*s.*—Du Tillet, Recueil des Guerres et Traictés d'entre les Roys de France et d'Angleterre, 17*l.* (having cost the late owner 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*)—Gheyn's Exercice of Armes, 5*l.* 10*s.*—Myvyrian Archaeology of Wales, 3 vols., 13*l.* 5*s.*—Earl of Orford's Hasty Productions, 3*l.* 8*s.* (most of the copies having been destroyed at the request of the Hon. Mr. Damer as too indecent for publication).—Poullain Gallery, 10*l.*—Repton on Landscape Gardening, 2 vols., 7*l.* 5*s.*—Duke of Newcastle's Method of Horsemanship, in French, 2*l.*; and in English, 2*l.*—Piccini Pavimenta Mosaica, 12*l.*—Saxton's Maps of England and Wales, imperfect, 8*l.* 8*s.*—Marchioness of Stafford's Private Etchings in the Orkneys, 6*l.* 10*s.*—Whitaker's Craven and Whalley, 2 vols., large paper, 77*l.*—Winstanley's Audley End, 34*l.* 10*s.*, &c. The entire sale (655 lots, most of which were modern books of little value) produced 1,035*l.* 15*s.*

Holland celebrates every year the memory of its greatest poet, Joost van der Vondel, by the representation of his 'Gysbrecht van Amstel.' This year, a monument erected to the poet at Amsterdam, for which the whole nation has contributed, will be uncovered, and great festivities will take place on the occasion, for Mynheer is quite as proud of his Vondel, whom indeed he calls the Dutch Shakespeare, as the English can be of the national poet. Joost van der Vondel was born at Cologne, in 1587, in the Orphan Street (Platen Orphanorum), near St. Gereon's Church, a street which exists no longer by that name. The poet was always warily attached to his native town. Those acquainted with his works will remember his beautiful Ode to Gustavus Adolphus, in which he asks the Swedish king to spare Cologne, the "nest" which gave him birth. It is expected that Cologne will also take an active

part in the celebration which Holland is preparing for the memory of its great poet.

Death has recently closed the career of a very eminent cultivator of natural science and an excellent man, Prof. Willem Vrolik, who died on the 22nd of December, at the age of sixty-two. He was the eldest son of Prof. Gerardus Vrolik, and was born at Amsterdam, April 29, 1801. He studied first at Amsterdam, and afterwards at the University of Utrecht, and then at Paris, from October, 1822, to April, 1823. On his return to Holland, he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Utrecht, June 10, 1823. After his marriage with Theodora Cornelia van Doorn, he travelled in Germany, visiting Berlin and Saxony. Being established at Amsterdam in the practice of medicine, he exercised this profession until 1829, when he accepted the appointment of extraordinary Professor of Anatomy in the University of Groningen. He was occupied in the campaign on the frontiers of Holland and in Belgium from the end of 1830 till November, 1831, serving with the volunteers of the students of Groningen and Franeker. In the latter year he received an invitation to the chair of Anatomy, Physiology and Zoology in the Athenæum of Amsterdam. He occupied this chair with distinction for more than thirty years, having, in the spring of 1863, on account of his declining health, been compelled to resign. The works of Prof. W. Vrolik are numerous. They are mostly on comparative anatomy, chiefly of the mammalia, and upon morbid anatomy. In the first science the principal are: 'Recherches d'Anatomie comparée sur le Chimpanzé,' fol. 1841, with fine plates; and 'Natuur-en Oudekundige Beschouwing vander Hyperoodon, (Delphinus edentulus,) 1848. Printed in the Natuurkundige Verhandelungen van de hollandsche Maatschappij der Wetenschappen te Haarlem. On morbid anatomy, or teratology, his works are important, and valuable on the origin of Cyclops. His chief work is, 'Handboek der zielekundige Oudekunde. Aangeboren Getreken,' 2 vols. 1840-1842; and 'Tabule ad illustrandum Embryogenesin Hominis et Mammalium, tam naturalem quam abnormem,' (100 plates, 4to.) For this work he received the Monthyon prize from the Academy of Sciences, at Paris, in 1850. English medical literature contains specimens of his researches in both these departments of science. In the fourth volume of Todd's 'Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology' appear his articles, 'Quadrumanus' and 'Teratology.' Willem Vrolik was Knight of the Military Order of William (after 1831), of the Order of the Dutch Lion, 1855, and a member of many learned societies.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES by the Members is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East. Nine till dark.—Admission, 1s.
JOS. J. JENKINS, Secretary.

WINTER EXHIBITION, 1864, Pall Mall.—The ELEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES, by Living British Artists, is NOW OPEN, from 9.30 A.M. to 5 P.M.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS, 53, Pall Mall.—The EXHIBITION OF CARL VERNER'S celebrated Series of DRAWINGS—Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and the Holy Places—is NOW OPEN.—Admission, 1s.

HOLMAN HUNT'S GREAT PICTURE, 'THE FINDING OF THE BODY IN THE TEMPLE,' commenced in Jerusalem, 1854, is NOW ON VIEW, at Messrs. J. & R. JENNINGS'S GALLERY, 62, Chesham, from Ten till Five o'clock.—Admission, 1s.

MR. ARTHUR SKETCHLEY will appear at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, in his New Entertainment, entitled PARIS, and Mrs. BROWN at the PLAY, on THURSDAY NEXT, February 4, and every Evening (except Saturday), at Eight, and Saturday Mornings at Three.—Stalls, 3s.; Second Seats, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—The Box-office at the Hall will be open on after Monday, February 1, between the hours of Eleven and Five daily.

SCIENCE

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Jan. 21.—General Sabine, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Dissection of the Pneumogastric and Sympathetic Nerves in an Acephalous Fetus,' by Mr. R. J. Lee.—'On the Conditions, Extent and Realization of a perfect Musical Scale in Instruments with fixed Tones,' by Mr. A. J. Ellis.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Jan. 25.—Sir R. I. Murchison, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read: 'Narrative of the Expedition of Mr. Lefroy, Superintendent of Convicts, eastward from Perth, West Australia.'—'Mr. Hector's Exploring Expedition, Middle Island, New Zealand.'—'Report of Mr. M'Kerrow on the Lake District of Otago.'—'Account of the Ascent of the Moisie River, Labrador,' by Prof. H. Y. Hind.

GEOLOGICAL.—Jan. 20.—Prof. A. C. Ramsay, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. S. Crossley, the Rev. H. Housman, C. W. Macrae, W. R. Barr, E. J. Routh, G. St. Clair, J. B. Stone and Mutu Comara Swamy were elected Fellows. Il Cavaliere Paolo Savi was elected a Foreign Member.—The following communications were read: 'Observations on supposed Glacial Drift in the Labrador Peninsula, Western Canada, and on the South Branch of the Saskatchewan,' by Prof. H. Y. Hind, M.A.—'Notes on the Drift-deposits of the Valley of the Severn, in the neighbourhood of Colebrookdale and Bridgenorth,' by G. Maw, Esq.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Jan. 14.—W. Tite, Esq., M.P., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. Brown exhibited a figure in relief, cast in lead, representing Our Lord in the type of the 'Man of Sorrows.'—P. Lethbridge, Esq., exhibited a Russo-Greek brass crucifix—with numerous subjects grouped in panels around the central figure. The inscriptions are in Slavonic characters. The type was of that archaic kind which would suit equally well a work executed a few years or a few centuries ago.—C. Reed, Esq., exhibited an oak carving of St. Andrew, which he had purchased in Wales. It was of Flemish work.—J. Irving, Esq., exhibited some mining implements of iron and wood, found at the junction of the ancient and modern workings of the Westbury Brook Iron Mines, in the Forest of Dean.—W. Tite, Esq., communicated an account of some Roman remains discovered at Chester in the course of the last summer. It appeared that in the autumn of last year Mr. Tite was passing through Chester, when his attention was attracted to a photograph in a shop window of some apparently Roman remains, which led him to make further inquiries, when he found they had been discovered in digging the foundations for rebuilding the old inn in Bridge Street, Chester, called the 'Feathers'—a building supposed to be as old as the time of Edward III. On further examining these excavations Mr. Tite found the distinct remains of a small temple or shrine. This temple originally consisted of twenty-four Corinthian columns, four at each end, and eight on each side. Of these ten remained in their places—that is, there were ten bases and considerable portions of the shafts. Other fragments of the shafts and portions of the capitals were found in the rubbish, and the foundations of the twenty-four were to be recognized. The diameter of the columns was 2 feet 3½ inches, and the intervals or intercolumniations about 11 feet 9 inches. Round this small temple, which, doubtless, had a statue in the middle, were the remains of the baths, one of which (supposed to be the hypocaust) was the subject of the photograph exhibited in the shops of Chester. The Marquis of Westminster, to whom the land belonged, had requested that the site should be cleared out, and his architect, Mr. Hodgkinson, had ably seconded his wishes. The account of the discovery appears to be the following:—In the month of June last, in digging the foundations, the workmen came upon two distinct portions of ancient buildings. On the eastern side was a space of about twenty-three feet square, which was supposed to be the hypocaust of a bath, from the presence of between sixty and seventy stone pillars, thirty-two inches high, with capitals twelve inches in size, somewhat similar to those discovered in the buried city of Wroxeter. The absence, however, of any blue tiles led Mr. Tite to infer that these pillars were merely intended to protect from damp the superincumbent tessellated pavements. About a fortnight after the discovery of this so-called hypocaust there was found to the north of it the base of a Roman column, 27½ inches in diameter across the top, and 4 feet 8 inches high,

resting on a square block of red sandstone, standing on the maiden rock. At the distance of 11 feet 9 inches, the base of a second column, of similar mouldings and proportions, was met with, and subsequently a third and a fourth, between the last of which are the remains of a Roman wall, 14 feet deep, cut in the solid rock. In the front of these bases, and at a distance of 39½ feet, have been discovered the bases of six columns, forming part of the other side of the temple. This was the state of things when these remains were fortunately seen by Mr. Tite. He immediately perceived that the ruins were of the same date and character as those discovered at Bath in 1780, and which are extremely well exhibited in the works of Lysons and Carter, and also preserved with great care in the Museum of that city. Mr. Tite caused a careful plan to be taken of all the remains, in which he was much assisted by Mr. Hodgkinson. In the paper read he stated that though in Britain Roman walls, pavements, arches, &c., were constantly found, yet he had never before seen the remains of any columnar architecture. Even London had never produced any traces of such decorations. The paper was further illustrated by remarks on the city of Chester, the Deva of the Britons, and the Castra of the Romans, the residence of the tenth legion, called 'Victoria Victrix,' and forming a garrison of 5,000 men. There were drawings also of the ruins as Mr. Tite saw them, photographs, and a beautiful restoration of the whole building, with its baths, palastra, gardens, &c., a restoration of the temple or shrine, which must have been 110 feet long by 39 feet 6 inches in width, and a comparison of the Corinthian order at Chester and its ornaments with those found at Bath. The paper was received with much satisfaction, and it was considered fortunate that so complete an account of remains so interesting had been thus accidentally preserved, as it appears that except the bases, capitals, and fragments deposited in the Museum at Chester, the whole of the remains have now been swept away to construct the foundations of the new buildings.

NUMISMATIC.—Jan. 21.—W. S. W. Vaux, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Rev. H. Meason, and J. S. Smallfield, Esq., were elected members.—Mr. Buxton exhibited a silver dollar of Augustus, Duke of Brunswick, 1661, two tokens, and a farthing of Southampton.—Mr. C. R. Smith exhibited casts of a gold coin of Cunobeline, found at Cudham, Kent, and communicated to him by G. W. Norman, Esq.—Mr. Akerman exhibited two silver coins of Valens and Julianus, found some years ago in an urn near Wantage.—Mr. Grenfell exhibited a five-cent note payable by the state of North Carolina, and a one dollar note of the Confederate States of America, dated June 2, 1862.—Mr. Evans exhibited a cast of a gold coin of Addedomaros, in the collection of Mr. R. Almack, of Long Melford, Suffolk. Mr. Evans also exhibited a false testoon of Francis and Mary of Scotland, from the same dies as the gold coin exhibited at a previous meeting; also a false dollar of Mary and Henry, dated 1565.—Mr. Webster exhibited several false coins of the English series.—The Rev. J. H. Pollen communicated some further notes on the coins of Æthelred, lately found at Ipswich.—Mr. Evans read a paper by himself 'On some Anglo-Saxon sceattas found in Friesland.'—Mr. Madden read a paper communicated by R. S. Poole, Esq., 'On coins of Scyros,' which island had previously been a blank in Greek numismatics.

STATISTICAL.—Jan. 19.—Colonel Sykes, M.P., President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Messrs. G. Smith, W. Bagehot, J. Ely, and A. Wyatt-Edgell.—Prof. Hind, of Toronto, read a paper 'On the Commercial Progress and Resources of Central British North America.'

LINNEAN.—Jan. 21.—G. Bentham, Esq., President, in the chair.—Capt. Bulger, J. Haast, W. R. Hughes, W. Jameson, T. C. Jerdon, O. Salvin, J. Smith, and W. J. H. Spink, were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'On *Cygnus Passmorei*, a new American swan,' by the

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Rev. W. Hinde.—'On Nausitora, a new genus of Terebratulina,' by E. P. Wright, M.D.—'On Dicelura, a new genus of Insects, belonging to the Stips Thysanura, in the Order Neuroptera,' by A. H. Haliday, Esq.—'Description of a new species of Annelida, belonging to the Family Amphipoda,' by W. Baird, M.D.—'The Bryologia of the Survey of the 49th Parallel of Latitude,' by W. Mitten, A.L.S.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Jan. 26.—E. W. H. Holdsworth, Esq., in the chair.—A communication was read from Dr. Krefft, of Sydney, on a New Australian serpent of the family Boidae, from Port Denison, N.E. Australia, proposed to be called *Aspidotes melanocephalus*.—Mr. W. H. Flower read a paper 'On the Brain of the *Echidna hystrix*,' referring in particular to the form of the *Corpora quadrigemina*, which, contrary to what had been usually stated, he considered did not materially differ in this monotreme from the ordinary structure of this part of the brain in other mammals.—Mr. G. R. Gray communicated the description of a new Goliath Beetle, obtained by Dr. Kirk, on the Zambesi, and proposed to be called *Goliathus Kirkianus*, from its discoverer.—A paper was read by Dr. J. C. Cox, of Sydney (N.S.W.), 'On a new Australian species of mollusk of the genus *Helix*, from Port Denison, N.E. Australia, proposed to be called *Helix Forbesii*.'—Dr. A. Günther read a list of a collection of thirty-one fishes, obtained by Capt. J. M. Dow, in Central America, amongst which were many new species, and several of them of great interest.—A paper was read by Messrs. Adams and Angas, containing descriptions of new species of shells, chiefly from Australia, in the collection of Mr. Angas.—Dr. J. E. Gray communicated some notes on certain seals, including the description of a new species proposed to be called *Halocyon Richardi*, from the west coast of North America.

CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Jan. 26.—J. R. M'Clellan, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was, 'The East Coast, between the Thames and the Wash Estuaries,' by Mr. J. B. Redman.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Entomological, 7.
— Architects, 8.
— Royal Institution, 2.—General Monthly Meeting.
Tues. Anthropological, 8.—Upper Jaw of a Greenlander, Prof. Cusack and Mr. Blake; Anthropological Dissections, Mr. Reddie.
— Photographs, 8.—Anniversary.
— Engineers, 8.—Discussion upon Mr. Redman's 'East Coast between the Thames and the Wash.'
— Royal Institution, 3.—'Experimental Optics,' Prof. Tyndall.
Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—'Instantaneous Engraving upon Metal,' Mr. Vial.
— Geological, 8.—'Permian Rocks of N.W. of England, and their Extension into Scotland,' Sir R. I. Murchison and Prof. Harkness; 'Flint Implements and Fossil Mammalia,' Mr. Wyatt.
— Society of Literature, 8.—'New Trilobite Phenomenon,' Mr. Deutch.
Thurs. Royal Academy, 8.—'Architecture,' Prof. Smirke.
— Antiquaries, 8.—Election of Fellows.
— Chemical, 8.—'On Mordelet,' Dr. How.
— Linnean, 8.—'Reproductive Organs in the Primulaceae,' Mr. Scott; 'Anatomy of Rotatoria,' Dr. Moxon.
— Royal, 8.
— Royal Institution, 3.—'Experimental Optics,' Prof. Tyndall.
Fri. Archaeological Institute, 4.
— Royal Institution, 8.—'The Science of History,' Mr. Froude.
Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'Antiquity of Man,' Mr. Lubbock.

FINE ARTS

Photographs from the Churches and other Ecclesiastical Buildings in France. Taken for the Architectural Photographic Association, by Cundall, Downes & Co.

THE issue for this year to members of the Architectural Photographic Association, comprising a series of twenty-two studies from edifices in central and south France, is intended to illustrate an architectural kingdom that is second to none in technical importance, and probably surpasses all others in historical suggestiveness. France stood for some centuries as a debateable land between the Frankish and the Southern nations, and bears testimony, in the diversified character of her ancient edifices, to the influences of both. As, in geology, the sedimentary deposits attest the action of

successive influences, so in France appear the works of various peoples that have settled on her soil, merging, it is true, gently into one another at their edges, but, in the main, distinct enough each from each. We have architecturally, as well as politically, divided provinces in the great country now so strangely welded into one.

Critics have broadly parted the country into north and south, between the Frankish and the Romance nations, i.e. the German and the Latin-inspired races. From the first arose to its perfection the glorious pointed Gothic style of architecture; to the second we owe a beautiful variety of the Romanesque—that which the French writers aptly name the Romance division of the art. In middle France, where each was most removed from its proper centre, the two mixed, and both, as they respectively shaded off to the eastwards, owned the influence of the German motive. In Burgundy the style of design assimilates best with that of Lorraine—a province in old times more strongly German than it is now. Minor distinctions and divisions exist, but thus is broadly parted the architectural history of ancient France.

In some of her sub-divisions the country shows the influence of races long ago settled in them, but originally derived from a distance greater than that of Rome, and traceable through long periods of time. Thus, the colony of Pelagic Greeks anciently seated in the place now known as Marseilles, is not even yet divested of all traces of Greek character, and the student may notice more of them at work in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, as shown in the photographs before us. Arles is yet claimed for the Greeks on the strength of certain physical peculiarities of its inhabitants; to us there appears to be an unusual predominance of characteristic Greek taste in the choice of ornaments placed upon the examples selected here from this city. We find the like in those from St. Gilles and Tarascon. Bourges preserved to a very late date a municipal organization unquestionably derived from the Romans; Perigueux was similarly fortunate; in both places characteristic ruins have been found.

To illustrate, so far as may be possible with a limited series of examples, the distinctions that are so broadly marked in the architectural history of France, appears to be the aim of the work before us. At any rate, it contains materials for such an exposition, not, it is true, complete, but enough to interest deeply a class of students larger than that which devotes itself to archaeology alone. It would be difficult for any student who possessed even an outline knowledge of the history of France, not to be interested in the progress of architecture in the country—in such progress is written the history of civilization. The examples before us are selected from buildings so far removed from each other in style, date and site, as are the cathedrals of Auxerre and Sens—in Champagne, Bourges—right in the heart of France, St. Gilles and Arles—near the mouths of the Rhone, Lyons, Tarascon and Vézelay. The photographs are of unquestionable excellence; many of the examples very happily combine an architectural or technical interest with picturesque attractiveness.

In the famous Church of St. Trophime, at Arles, the bulk of which was built in the age of Charlemagne, there are many interesting and beautiful features. Of these none surpasses the porch, which, although erected in the eleventh century, presents the characteristics of a much earlier date, and shows them combined by an original power of genius that would honour the greatest works.

This porch at Arles stands at one end of the scale, so to say, of these noteworthy French works. The singularly picturesque and beautiful cloisters at the same place have like characteristics of design. In them the pillars that form the arcade are in pairs, of which one column is, in some instances, round, and has an acanthus-leaf capital, while the other has an angular shaft, and a capital sculptured with figures. In several instances the round shaft is placed exteriorly; in others the reverse is the case. This work is further diversified in the decorations employed; these sometimes show a classic character, but are always used in a Gothic spirit,—their variety being a strong sign of its action.

At the other end of the scale we may place the three examples from Auxerre, representing the triple doors in the west end of the cathedral, and details from the same. This building is an admirable specimen of French Pointed Gothic. The porches are gloriously enriched with sculptures; those in the recesses of each entrance above the door show compositions of figures placed beneath canopies wrought in the richest style. The jambs have large niches, canopied, as above, which were once filled with statues. These niches rest upon a series of panels, pointed, containing sculptures, now much mutilated, and of the style we are accustomed to call Edwardian. Of these sculptures it is not too much to say that the artist's feeling for design and treatment of drapery are almost identical with those manifested in the noblest works of Greek Art. The resemblance in these respects that exists between the figures thus pointed out and some of those that were taken from the Parthenon, and are now in the British Museum, must strike all who study them. They have, in common with the Phidian sculptures, the same ease of attitude, similar free dignity, and the simplicity that accompanies a perfect style; in both is a fine breadth of drapery,—in the detail of which they are singularly alike: this is elegant, yet severe; faithful, yet generalized. The utmost richness of light and shade is, in this marvellous portal, secured by the manner in which the recessed porches gather about them the mass of the decorations employed on the whole front, and by the varieties of relief in which the sculptures are treated.

The five west portals of Bourges Cathedral offer materials for study in these photographs, that are inferior in quality, it may be, to those found in the triple porch at Auxerre; but still glorious in their exuberant beauty. There are six examples from Bourges.

The three photographs from St. Gilles manifest a Romanesque character more magnificent, and even more inclined to classic feeling, than those from Arles: they are probably of an earlier date, and are certainly less perfect examples of the style. It is noteworthy that the sculptures exhibit a Roman look very distinguishable from the quasi-Gothicism of those in the neighbouring Arles.

The Archbishop's Palace at Lyons, No. 16 of this series, although, through the insertion of windows, &c., exhibiting woful injuries to the façade, deserves the most attentive study from all who are interested in the question of exterior decoration. We commend the example. As an object of great importance in the history of Western architecture, this building is famous. We may congratulate the members of the Architectural Photographic Association upon the publication of this series. Of more varied interest than that recently reviewed by us, issued by the same Society, which had for subject the sculptures of Wells Cathedral, this work has a wider appeal. Messrs. Cundall,

Downes & Co. have admirably executed their task as photographers.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Mr. Maclise is painting a picture representing the scene described by Sir Walter Scott, in 'Ivanhoe,' of the meeting of King Richard the First with Robin Hood and the outlaws. This will probably appear at the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition.

We repeat a query suggested to a contemporary. Is the National Gallery fire-proof? If not, the sooner it is made so the better, or all possibilities of the fate of the Tower Armouries, the Custom House, and the Houses of Parliament, befalling it, should be placed out of calculation. Independent of the officials of the Royal Academy, who reside in the eastern half of the building, one whole family, comprising several children, occupies the western half, immediately beneath the picture-galleries.

One of the desiderata of the day is a comfortable and portable church-seat. How important church-seats have been made to appear need not be told to those who know that grants in aid of church-building have been refused, when it was understood that the proposed edifice would be fitted with moveable chairs. Nothing has ruined the appearance of noble church-interiors so much as the addition of pews; or in many cases, of the low stalls now most in favour. The latter are preferable to the former, but still they do not admit of removal when not in use—so as to clear the area of the place of worship, and leave its pillars undwarfed, allowing its proportions to be fairly seen. Mr. Holmes has patented a bench which shuts up on itself, and may be put aside against the aisle walls, or by two persons carried into its place. We commend these benches as convenient, inexpensive, and slightly. Messrs. C. Seddon & Co., South Molton Street, are the manufacturers.

A work on elementary drawing, prepared like drawing copy books, is announced as ready by Messrs. Chapman & Hall. Children of four years old and upwards are invited to use it.

The award of a moderate punishment to the mischievous individual who, under the influence of what he called "excitement," did his worst to destroy one of Turner's pictures in the National Gallery, may, for the present occasion suffice. When it is remembered, however, that this is by no means the first event of the sort—an "excitable" shoemaker having smashed (the work being painted on marble), a 'Leda,' by A. Veronese—our readers will agree with us in saying that either the law should be made more stringent than it appears to be with regard to such acts, or, if already powerful, should be strongly administered. If a few weeks' imprisonment is all that can be awarded to an ill-conditioned fellow for such an act, we shall learn from time to time that new evil has been done. The fate of Humpty-Dumpty and the Portland Vase may be awarded to whatever is priceless and irreparable in our national treasure houses, by any crazy or mischievous creature. We believe there is a wholesome fear of severe consequences in the minds of the most "excitable" of men, and that the impulses even of persons whose great-grandmothers have been "flighty," are restrained in a surprising manner by the prospect of condign chastisement. Let this matter be considered. Meanwhile, such acts offer fresh reasons for covering pictures with glass. A stout sheet of glass will resist a strong blow, and if broken, insure the detection of the culprit by the noise of his own act.

Mrs. F. G. Delamotte publishes, at Beaufort Buildings, Strand, three illuminated cards, intended to be hung upon a wall, bearing respectively the words, 'Faith,' 'Hope,' 'Charity.' The first of these is garish in colour, and suffers from the predominance of a crude blue sky and the "smartness" of the red, gold and green colours of the border. In the second example a gold-grounded border of lilies, executed in the taste of sixteenth century illuminations, is pretty as a picture but bad as a decoration. Another part of this border—displaying red and white May-blossoms—being an honest piece of painting, deserves praise for

its pleasant execution. To a border of "Christmas"—holly leaves and berries—in the 'Charity' card, our remarks on the lily border of the 'Hope' apply. In the hollow of the initial of the former is a doleful picture of the Christian virtue in question leading an object for commiseration up a flight of steps. We are puzzled to know whether the hulking fellow is to be conducted. Why does not Charity—or Almsgiving, which is the true name of the robust female before us—take off her crimson-and-gold-embroidered stole for the benefit of the fellow whom, notwithstanding the dislocation of her own right hip-joint, she is leading? On re-examination of this design we are convinced that Almsgiving is leading the impostor into the holly-bush in the margin; of course this makes it all right, and offers that which is to be commended to the juvenile mind for imitation. In case any of our young friends should take the example to heart, we may as well hint how desirable it will be to obtain possession of the cudgel ere proceeding to extremities with "objects" of the kind in question. Of course such fellows are to be met with at the corners of every street, and the temptation to lead them into the abounding holly-bushes of London must sometimes be irresistible; still, in general, it may be well to consult the policeman ere advantage is taken of Mrs. Delamotte's subtle suggestion. We are much obliged to her for the highly practical form in which she presents her views, and, if she will mitigate the crudity of the blue sky referred to, we will hang the cards up in the summer-house.

Mulready always declared that the first drawings he made on entering Banks's studio were from Gothic sculptures, originals which had been given to Banks by Alderman Boydell, and taken from the porch at Guildhall in 1789, when the place was restored by George Dance. Mulready felicitated himself and his master on their being among the first persons to appreciate at its value the extraordinary merit of these specimens of Gothic art. So rigid was Banks in demanding due consideration for their beauty, that he insisted upon the most unflinching rendering of all their characteristics. At Banks's sale, which took place shortly after his death in 1805, these works were sold, we believe to Mr. Banks, M.P., for 100*l.* Where they are now is not known, but if they are not destroyed, the present owner will not be sorry to learn how much Mulready owed to them. The statues represented Religion, Fortitude, Justice, Temperance, Law and Learning—at least they were so designated in the early part of this century.

Can anything be done to lessen the annoyance arising from the noisy tramping of visitors on the bare floor of the National Gallery, and to prevent bright reflections of that floor, from appearing in the glasses placed over the pictures? We suggest Kamptulicon for the purpose, as not retaining dust, having a dull surface, capable of receiving colour and of deadening sound.

The restoration of St. Mary Redcliffe Church, Bristol, is proceeding. The report of the committee intrusted with the superintendence of the works states that the north side of the Lady Chapel, the clerestory, six of the side-windows, the large north window, and the exterior of the north transept, are completed. The ceiling of the north transept has been cleaned and restored, as have the columns of the chancel, one bay of the screen of the north aisle, &c. The north-west clerestory is in process of restoration, also the flying buttresses, the jambs and arches and the panel-work. As a Handel Memorial, Messrs. Clayton & Bell are to fill one of the windows of the north chancel with stained glass. The old pews have been removed and the pavement renewed.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN, under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON.—On MONDAY, February 1st, and during the Week, Ralf's Romantic Opera, *BLANCHE DE NEVERS*. Miss Louisa Pyne, Miss Anna Hills, Messrs. Weiss, H. Corri, A. Cook, J. Rouse, A. St. Alban, and W. Harrison. After which, the Grand National Fantasia, *HARLEQUIN ST. GEORGE and the DRAGON*.—On Wednesday, February 3rd, last Grand Morning Performance of the Pantomime, at Two o'clock, to which children under twelve years of age will be admitted at half-price to all parts of the house except Pit, price 1*s.* 6*d.*—Box-office open from 10 till 5 daily.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY NEXT (February 2nd, 4th, and 6th), FAUST (in English).—Lemmens-Sherrington, Tacconi, and Piesse, Lucia; Santley, Marchesi, Dusek, and Sims Reeves. Conducted by Signor ARDITI.—Commence at Eight.—Private Boxes, from One Guinea to Three Guineas; Pit Stalls, 10*s.* 6*d.*; Dress Circle, 7*s.*; Upper Circle, 5*s.*; Pit, 3*s.*; Gallery, 2*s.* Box-office of the Theatre open daily.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—GRAND MORNING PERFORMANCE OF FAUST (in English), MONDAY, February 1st, Lemmens-Sherrington, Tacconi, and Piesse, Lucia; Santley, Marchesi, Dusek, and Sims Reeves. Conducted by Signor ARDITI.—Prices of admission same as to the Evening Representation. Commence at Two o'clock.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.—THURSDAY EVENING, February 4.—Programme: Part I. Military Overture (the Band of the Scots Fusilier Guards, Mendelssohn); Part Song, 'Welcome Spring,' Leslie; Madrigal, 'Lullaby of my Soul,' Pearsall; Glee, 'It was a lover and his lay,' Stevens; Anthem, 'Flow ye trumpet' (with accompaniment of brass instruments, Leslie); Sonata for Piano-forte, 'Moonlight,' Mr. Dannreuther; Beethoven; Motet for Double Choir, 'In exitu Israel,' Wesley. Part II. Cantata, 'O sons of art' for male voices, with accompaniment of wind instruments, Mendelssohn; Duett, 'Quis est homo,' Rossini; Part Song, 'Lullaby,' Santley; Madrigal, 'As Vesta was descending,' Weekes; Duett for Two Piano-fortes (Miss Marian Walsh and Mr. Dannreuther, Thackeray); Glee by the full Choir, 'The cloud-capt towers,' Stevens; Madrigal, 'The Waits,' 'Fa, la, la' (A. N. 1687), Saville; Marche aux Flambeaux (the Band of the Scots Fusilier Guards), Meyerbeer; Conducted, Mr. Henry Leslie.—Sofa Stalls, 6*s.*; Family dble, to admit Four, 1*l.*; Balcony, 3*s.*; Reserved Area, 2*s.*; Admission, 1*s.*; Addison & Lucas, 210, Regent Street; Keith, Prowse & Co., 48, Cheapside; and Austin's Ticket Office, 25, Finsbury.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Shakspeare Vocal Album. (Lonsdale).—This 'Shakspeare Vocal Album,' a volume splendidly produced, claims attention as belonging to the year during which a high solemnity has been projected in honour of the world's greatest dramatic genius. But the book has been got together carelessly—or else (which is quite as possible) difficulties of copyright have interfered; otherwise, by the side of the name of Schubert, we should have found that of Mendelssohn inscribed. And surely (this touches want of care, not want of copyright), if 'Thou soft-flowing Avon,' that ditty by Garrick, prettily set by Arne for the Stratford Jubilee, was to be admitted, what may be called collateral Italian and French contributions should have been included. We could have dispensed with 'Light o' Love,' Dibdin's 'Warwickshire Lad,' and 'Hamlet's Letter to Ophelia,' altered and miserably set by Michael Kelly, in favour of Signor Rossini's exquisite 'Willow Song,'—and some airs from among the many settings of 'Romeo and Juliet.' Then Sir John Stevenson's 'Tell me where is fancy bred,' with its ignorant setting of a stage-direction *Reply* (otherwise *second voice*) as part of the ditty,—and Shield's no less Boeotian glee of the 'Loadstars,' with its wonderful reading of the words

Your tongue's sweet air.

should have been left out, as behind the intelligence of the age we live in,—though, alas! ours has seen so strange a reading by a musician of a poet's line as this one from the Laureate's 'Maud'—

Queen of the rosebud. Garden of girls.

This volume, however, contains many good things, among others, Clifton's *Canzonet*, 'If music be the food of love.'—Bishop, of course, figures here largely, and mostly to his credit. We have his delicious 'By the simplicity,'—'Bid me discourse,' a *bravura* worth a waggon-load of the cuckoo airs and graces which your *prima donna* now-a-days must have by way of close to her opera, whether the same be comical, pastoral, historical, or tragical. Here, moreover, are his three two-part songs in the same style (he was for ever repeating himself), the best of which is 'Orpheus with his lute.' We would gladly have sacrificed one of these,—still more, his adaptation of the duett betwixt *Ceres* and *Proserpine*, from Winter's 'Ratto'—for his elegant setting of

Say, though you strive to steal your life away.

But we must have done.

MUSIC IN LEIPZIG.

Leipzig, Jan. 1864.

NEW Year's-day opened our after-Christmas season with an interesting revival,—Bach's *Cantata*, "*Freue dich, erlöste Schar*," No. 30 in the Bach Society's edition. This *Cantata* is a singular proof how undefined used to be the boundaries between secular and sacred music. In its original form (composed 1737) it was written in honour of a Herr von Hennicke, at that time Minister to the Elector of Saxony, and who in that year took

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possession of an estate at Wiederau, in the neighbourhood of Leipzig. The characters represented were Destiny, Fortune, Time, and the River Elster. In the following year Bach, probably thinking it too good for the fleeting life of an occasional composition, turned it, by making of it what was then called a "Spiritual Parody," into a Cantata for St. John the Baptist's Day. The alterations were very few, some recitatives and one air were cut out, a Choral was added, and the text slightly altered. The opening and closing choruses are most joyous, one might almost say jovial. Two bass airs, with recitatives, were splendidly sung by Herr Stockhausen, who never shines more than when singing Bach's music. There is also a *contralto* air, the accompaniment to which is one of the most touching creations of a master who could be as tender as he was strong; there is an Italian grace and graciousness in it which goes at once to the heart. It was a pity that the inefficiency of the lady to whom the air was intrusted marred the effect of this lovely composition. A tenor recitative and a soprano recitative and air were omitted.—If the English Choral Societies are afraid to venture upon one of Bach's great works, why do they not attempt some of his Cantatas? Small in form, many of them are gigantic in conception.

In the same concert a New Year's Song for *soli*, chorus, and orchestra, by Schumann, was performed for the first time. The text is not favourable to unity of idea, and the earlier portion, therefore, sounds fragmentary; but the final chorus, winding up with the Choral "Nun danket alle Gott" (the German Old Hundredth), is one of the finest and clearest of Schumann's choral works which I have yet heard.

In the next concert Herr Franz Lachner's second Suite was performed for the first time. His first Suite (reported upon last year) was so good that expectation was at a high pitch, and I rejoice to say that it was not disappointed.—As is usual in this form of composition, the Suite is divided into five movements.—Introduction and Fugue, Andante, Menuetto, Intermezzo, Gigue. The subject of the Fugue is in itself rather harsh, but is most vigorously treated; the Andante, Menuetto, and Intermezzo are charming, the last two narrowly escaping an encore; the Gigue is a spirited close. Herr Lachner's strength seems to be shown most in grace and elegance; he is a master of instrumentation; some excellent canon writing shows his skill in counterpoint, and proves also that his learning is made subordinate to a refined taste. The Suite was received with the warmest applause. Of a very different character was another novelty of the same evening—an 'Ode to the Spring,' for pianoforte and orchestra, by Herr Joachim Raff, a composer who is claimed by the "New German School," the members of which seem to have a peculiar liking for "spring" subjects, often treating them, however, with a most wintry dreariness. Herr Raff is one of these; it may be said, indeed, that his work has some good things in it; but even this modicum of praise must be taken, as Lessing once said of such a verdict, as involving the corollary that there is more that is bad. The Ode was excellently played by Frau Ingeborg von Bronsart (*née* Stark), who has greatly improved since I last heard her. In some solo pieces by Bach, Schumann, and Chopin, she had a more thankful task; did she possess a little more warmth, Frau von Bronsart might take a still higher position.—Herr Wilhelmj, the young violinist who has been mentioned more than once in my letters, again achieved a triumph in the first movement of Joachim's Concerto, and in Ernst's 'Otello' Fantasia. In tone and execution he had little to improve, but in musical feeling he seems to have become riper.—A new singer, Friulein Orgeni, of Baden-Baden, did not satisfy the expectations founded on the announcement that she was a pupil of Madame Viardot Garcia. The upper notes of her voice, when not forced, are sweet, and when singing music where the notes have to be sustained, she can be listened to with pleasure; but as a bravura singer she has much to learn.

In a chamber-music concert in the *Gewandhaus*, a stringed quartett, a posthumous work by Herr

Norbert Burgmüller, a musician who died young some thirty years ago, was played for the first time. Had the composer lived there is no doubt he would have made a name; his quartett shows taste and imagination, but not fully developed; the prevailing tone in it is one of sadness. We are promised a Symphony by the same composer before the season is ended.

In the *Euterge* I have only one novelty to record—a Concerto for the pianoforte (D major) by Herr Otto Singer, of Dresden. It is by no means a satisfactory work; in character it is more of a *Potpourri* than a Concerto; fresh subjects, more remembered than created, are continually introduced, only to be lost again in chaos; ever beginning, never-ending, the ear is continually tormented; and a heavy orchestral accompaniment smother the principal instrument. As a player, Herr Singer has a certain amount of dash, but wants clearness.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—'Faust' in English.—So much has been written of the sudden and unparagoned success of 'Faust' in this country that there is no need to expatiate on the subject when recording that the performance, in the form above described, took place duly on Saturday last, to the entire satisfaction of the audience. Three of the four principal artists were the same as sang the opera in Italian, on the same boards, in October; Signor Arditi conducted, as then. The chorus is stronger and fresher than it was. Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, as Margaret, proved herself competent to her task; she stands midway betwixt Mdle. Tietjens and Madame Miolan-Carvalho, inclining not to the forcible, but to the delicate reading of the character—that of an innocent girl, pure at heart, yielding to a two-fold fascination, earthly and supernatural. But for her tendency to drag the time, as in the "Thule" ballad and the final trio, her singing would have left little to desire. Her acting is sufficient. Madame Florence Lancia, as Siebel, pleased, in spite of a costume tasteless to absurdity. The best performance, in every point of view, was Mr. Santley's. The new song, taken from the second theme of the Introduction, with an episodic second part, is about as happy as are usually such *quasi-impromptu* movements, and owes its effect to the exquisite finish and feeling of the singer. Signor Marchesi has improved his *Mephistopheles*, though it is still a touch too *buffo*. His English is better than we had expected; and the words of the part are, from first to last, difficult, the author, with dramatic intentions, having overweighted them with sarcasm, always difficult to render in music. Mr. Sims Reeves, who was in thorough voice, sang the music well,—with great care.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—We are already in full concert-tide. The three entertainments to be chronicled this week, however widely different in form, have common fellowship and feature in their appeal to the only new music which is to-day universally accepted in England, after years of contempt and denial. It is no novelty that Herr Manns conducts admirably, and that thus Mendelssohn's 'Scotch Symphony' was played in perfect style at the Crystal Palace this day week. What was fresh was the Prelude, and some of the dance music belonging to M. Gounod's 'Reine de Saba.' The latter is picturesque and quaint in no common degree, showing all its writer's characteristics—in the dance of Jewish women, for instance,—his persistent use of a ground bass, and his bright and fanciful instrumentation. Then the solo, *alla Polacca* (in C major), is bewitching in its piquancies of rhythmic figure. There is, thirdly, a lovely *adagio* movement—the selection was wound up with a *Valse*, full of spirit, the theme of which is excellent, though, as a whole, it is inferior to the *valse* in 'Faust' and 'La Nonne Sanglante' (which last opera contains much other admirable ballet music, and a fine Overture never yet performed). In fact, this selection, though written for other purposes, fulfils the uses of a "suite," that old, concise, instrumental form dear to Bach and Handel, to which modern composers, incapable of thinking out

acceptable symphonies, overtures, trios, or sonatas, seem disposed to return. The singers at the Sydenham Concert were Baroness von Waedesteyn, a lady on probation, with a mezzo-soprano voice,—Mr. Cummings,—who might do much as a tenor singer if he pleased,—and Madame Parepa.

Monday's *Popular Concert* (to continue) gave us only one novelty to record. It behoves us to state that though the tone of M. Vieuxtemps is no longer what it was formerly, he was playing in better tone and with less languid and over-wrought heaviness than when we last heard him. The first quartett was Mendelssohn's quartett in A minor, Op. 18, with its Canonet 'Ist es wahr?'—the work, which on its completion, he so humorously defended against his father's criticisms—but which he used in subsequent years himself to disown, as belonging "to his period of rebellion," and which, with the exception of its *intermezzo* (the other night rapturously *encored*) is—for Mendelssohn—some-what empty, dry, and tormented—unworthy of the composer of the Pianoforte Quartett in B minor and the Ottett. The pianoforte-playing of M. Halle (who joined him in Mozart's Strinasachi Sonata) is riper, more refined, more thoughtful than ever. The novelty was M. Gounod's noble setting of Béranger's 'Juif Errant'—a grave, gloomy song, but of a wild and solemn grandeur, which raises the musician to the height of the lyrist. For a serious concert, nothing nobler could be selected; especially where its interpreter (as on Monday last) is Mr. Santley.—The other singer was Madame Parepa, who was *encored* in M. Gounod's 'Serenade.'—Next Monday's concert is "motived" (to adapt a French verb) by the circumstance of the anniversary of Mozart's birth falling within the week, and the music will be altogether by that master.—Madame Arabella Goddard is to be the pianist.

Postponing till next week such general remarks on the first concert of the *Musical Society* as we may have to offer, by way of thrilly illustrating the text with which we started, it may be pointed out that there too, the one novelty of the evening was the overture to 'Le Médecin malgré lui,' by M. Gounod, the first of his three earliest operas, which universally succeeded, and is a charming comedy in music. The overture, however, save for its quaint prelude in the stiff old French style, is one of M. Gounod's weakest compositions; and when the work shall appear (as it surely one day will) on the Italian, German, or English stage, it would be well worth his while to replace the *Allegro* by another one.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The management deserve praise for the determination to pursue the path of the legitimate drama, which now for so many years has been at this house the way to success. The Clerkenwell public are still faithful to their old persuasion, and show readiness to patronize every new venture in the old direction. One of the greatest triumphs under Mr. Phelps's management, was the revival of Webster's 'Duchess of Malfi,' as modified and adapted by the author of 'Orion.' The remarkable manner in which Miss Glyn impersonated the character of the unfortunate Duchess made it immediately famous; but after her departure from the theatre, the play was not again ventured, it being not considered politic to trust an inferior actress with a part which a great one had made so completely her own. Miss Marriott, however, has great ambition, and is not likely to shrink from any effort required by her position. On Saturday, accordingly, we were required to sit in judgment on her claims in this very part; and it is some satisfaction that we can report favourably of the experiment. The points were carefully made, the transitions judiciously effected, and the stage-business was accurately observed; and though we could not detect originality of conception or novelty of execution, the character was throughout sustained with an uniformity of power which rendered it impressive and secured applause. In refinement and finish there was, of course, deficiency;—but there is a rough and ready vigour about Miss Marriott, and a natural passionate earnestness which carries her safely over all difficulties. In her great scene in the fourth act with

Bossola, she had to contend with the inaptitude of Mr. Gresham for the part; but by the persevering adoption of the judicious directions in the prompt-book, she managed to evade the threatened dangers, and make a favourable impression. The *Antonio* of Mr. Edmund Phelps possessed considerable merit; and Mr. Jones, a conscientious, though not powerful actor, was painstaking in *Ferdinand*. The tragedy, in regard to scenery and costume, was creditably appointed; and, on the whole, well received by the audience.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The National Opera Association, by issuing a prospectus, at last stands before the public in a tangible form. It has "a local habitation," we perceive, as well as "a name,"—arrangements having been entered into with Mr. Gye for the occupation of Covent Garden Theatre, during the autumn and winter months, for a term of years. The capital proposed to be raised is 50,000*l.*, in shares of 2*l.* each, only one-half of which sum (it is hoped) will be required.—The object need not be stated, but we may say that the projectors do not bind themselves to operas solely by English composers, and that they announce their intention in some measure to give a helping hand to rising artists by affording them preliminary training for the stage among the conditions of their engagement. Mr. Mellon is to conduct the orchestra, Mr. Beverley to take charge of the scenery, Mr. Harris to be stage-manager.—All these last provisions are full of promise. After having pointed out that much—everything—will depend on the knowledge of business, sagacity, and disinterestedness of the Directing Committee, we can only here offer the undertaking our best wishes, leaving further remarks, in detail, for another day.

Mendelssohn's birthday is to be celebrated on Wednesday next, at Exeter Hall, where the *National Choral Society* will perform his 'Elijah.' Had he lived, he would have been fifty-four years of age.

An offset to Dr. Wyld's Concert Society is announced as about to be formed, to be called the *New Philharmonic Society*. This will hold eight Tuesday meetings during the year; for the practice of vocal music, consisting of motetts, madrigals, part-songs, &c.; and instrumental works, comprising quartets, trios, sonatas, &c., to be performed by the members (professional as well as amateur), who will have opportunities afforded them of producing new works. A small band of orchestral performers will be formed as soon as a sufficient number of members are willing to unite for that purpose. Herr Molique is to be president. Dr. Wyld's Concerts will be resumed after Easter.

Mr. Hullah has been lecturing at Edinburgh, on that inexhaustible musical subject, the Works and the Life of Handel.—We are requested to state that Mr. Henry F. Chorley will deliver his lectures on National Music, at the newly-opened Pimlico Literary Institution, towards the close of next month; after which they will be published in an extended form, with notes and additional matter.

The *Orchestra*,—which appears destined shortly to become our leading musical periodical, from the sense and spirit with which it is conducted,—announced last week that, among other musical works destined for the stage, Herr Schlösser has completed an operetta.

It is sufficient to announce *The Musical Directory, Register and Almanac*, for the current year (Messrs. Rudall & Co.)—to state that it appears, so far as we have examined it, more completely executed than in former years, though not without disproportions and predilections. This directory shows more distinctly than ever how vast is the spread of musical interest and culture in England, how timidity this is responded to by those who should lead taste, how insufficient is the staff of executants to the duties required of them, and, as a consequence, how exorbitant payment for the few, and discouragingly parsimonious reward of the many, continue to hinder the production of any important novelty.

M. Halle's *Concerts*, sacred and secular, are proceeding with unabated spirit, at Manchester.

At late ones, Onslow's Overture to 'Le Colporteur' (next to unknown in London) was played, and some of Mr. A. Sullivan's 'Tempest' music, which has grown popular there, was repeated.

"The whirligig of Time" brings about its repetitions as well as its "revenges." The French journals—*apropos* of the late revival of 'Moïse' (which, after all, appears to have created a greater sensation than at first appeared to be the case)—are anew dissecting the genius of Signor Rossini, just as they did some forty years ago, when he was in the hey-day of popularity and production, and when it was thought a proof of robust seriousness on the part of the pedants, to abuse his fascinations as so many frivolities beneath contempt. Granted unscrupulosity, granted inequality, the fact remains, that Signor Rossini's operas are revived forty years after their production, whereas those by Cimarosa, all save one, quitted the stage many a year ago—whereas not a note of Paer (though he wrote 'Agnese') has been heard during the past quarter of a century—whereas the star of Donizetti may be already seen as on the wane, and Signor Verdi has, for the last half-dozen years, only achieved a reception for many new works which amounts to suzerainty, not success. But with persons of a certain class of mind, who can only look to the past through the spectacles of Tradition, and listen to the present through the interposing medium of street and gallery plaudits—who have no standard, in short—facts in Art like these are things which must be humoured, not driven home to their first causes.

On its publication 'The Life of Chopin,' by Dr. Liszt, was reviewed in this journal, and attention was called to the strange mixture of musical acuteness, fraternal artistic feeling, and confused ambitious imagery displayed in its pages. Here we have an American translation by Martha Walker Cook (Trübner & Co.), in which all these attributes are reflected, and the last is exaggerated. The style of the translator, also her predilections, may be gathered from her Preface—one paragraph of which will suffice: "Perhaps," she says, "Liszt may yet visit us; we may yet hear the matchless pianist call from their graves in the white keys, the delicate arabesques, the undulating and varied melodies of Chopin. We should be prepared to appreciate the great artist in his enthusiastic rendering of the masterpieces of the man he loved; prepared to greet him when he electrifies us with his wonderful Cyclopean harmonies, written for his own Herculean grasp, sparkling with his own Promethean fire, which no meaner hand can ever hope to master."

From the *Gazette Musicale* the following Paris news is collected. Signor Roberti's Mass, which produced a favourable impression last year when given at the Brompton Oratory, has been executed with success in the Church of St. Vincent de Paul.—Herr Offenbach's operetta, 'Il Signor Fagotto' has been given at the new theatre of Les Bouffes Parisiens, to which that restless lady, Madame Ugalde, has returned.—M. Maillart's 'Lara' is in rehearsal at the Opéra Comique.—A new concert-hall, 'The Musical Athenæum,' has been opened on the Boulevard Saint-Germain.—M. Padeloup, who seems resolved to march in the right direction, is about, as closing series of his Popular Concerts, to give a Beethoven, a Mendelssohn, and a Haydn festival, with an orchestra and chorus of five hundred performers. It was said, when we were in Paris a few weeks since, that Madame Viardot was expected to sing the *contralto* part in 'Elijah,' at the second of the three concerts.—At the last concert of the Conservatoire, an ovation was given to M. Meyerbeer, the occasion being the performance of his 'Struensee' overture. The new ballet by MM. Saint-Georges and Giorza is to come out immediately at the Grand Opéra.—There is a talk of the Orphéonistes paying another visit to England.—Signor Musiani has been singing the part of *Manrico*, in 'Il Trovatore,' at the Italian Opera, without much success.

Herr Abert, of Stuttgart, has completed a new symphony, entitled 'Christopher Columbus.'—The Musical Society, the *Ton Halle*, of Mannheim, which distinguished itself during many years by offering prizes for compositions, has been dissolved.

—Mlle. Tietjens is singing at Hamburg.—Mr. Benedict's 'Rose of Erin' will be given after the Carnival at Berlin.

Herr Schindler is dead—in his day a professor of music of the second class, who will be best remembered by the sketchy biography of Beethoven, published some years ago, and which was edited for England by Prof. Moscheles. Schindler had lived much with the mighty master at Vienna during the last dark years of his life, and possessed many relics of him; on the strength of which he wrought himself up into the belief that he had a monopoly of knowledge on the subject: a shallow vanity which went far to deprive his book of value. A like spirit ran through all his dealings with his professional brethren. A friend of ours was present at a certain supper at Aix-la-Chapelle, described in 'Modern German Music,' where he held forth on his one subject, changing it only to flatter Mendelssohn, whom he had satirized behind his back. He well remembers the mixture of humour, impatience and disdain with which that noble-minded musician (whose keen sense of the ridiculous never forsook him, though it never expressed itself ill-naturedly) received his overtures, and exclaimed, after the door had closed on him, "One's ashamed that such a man is a German!"

MISCELLANEA

Lake Outlets.—The Laguna de Ybera in South America has no visible source of supply from stream or river, and yet has four fluvial outlets, two of which discharge a vast body of water, the Marañón into the Uruguay, the Corrientes into the Paraná. This great lake is situate in the loop between the Paraná and Uruguay, where they most closely approximate before again diverging, the latter to the tropical forests of Brazil, the former to the snows of the Andes; and this divergence explains the contrasted phenomena of two rivers, flowing through the same geographical region, having their floods at opposite seasons, the winter rains of the densely wooded solitudes of Western Brazil supplying the freshet of the Uruguay, while the snow melting on the mountains in early summer, floods the Paraná, the changes of which river only the lake obeys in its seasonal rise and fall, in summer covering an area of not less than five thousand square miles: hence, it has been conjectured, that the Laguna de Ybera derives its main supply by an underground channel or percolation from the upper waters of the Paraná, into which again its principal outflow is discharged by the Corrientes at a lower level. This strange geographical anomaly is supposed to be unexampled in the world; but the subject awaits further and more careful elucidation, and a passage in Speke's work (p. 610) suggests to my mind one analogy at least between the lake and river systems of the Nile and the Paraná. Speke asserts, in conformity with the suggestion of his former associate traveller, Dr. Murie, that the little Lúta Nzige is a great backwater to the Nile in flood; and if the explanation and analogy are admissible, it would seem that Divine Providence in nature has in both instances furnished these lakes, as gigantic safety dams, in order to prevent certain fertile regions of vast extent in Africa and America from suffering an entire denudation of soil, and destruction of animal life by the overwhelming seasonal floods. A more detailed examination of the phenomena of the Ybera might tend to solve the yet unexplained difficulties of the N'yanza and the Nile. Indeed, the social and political perils of the American provinces have hitherto deterred scientific travel, as well as industrial settlement in those extensive and fertile regions; but it is just possible, that among the numerous presidencies (Roman Catholic missions) on the banks of the Ybera, some ecclesiastics might be found with sufficient learning and desire to facilitate discovery and communicate information. The Laguna de Ybera is, in fact, an inland Sargasso; and has its own peculiar Fauna and Flora, like that strange "weedy sea." J. L. (Dublin.)

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